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COUNTRY LIFE

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1939

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MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advertisements for this column are accepted at the rate of 2d. per word prepaid (if Box Number used 6d. extra), and must reach this office not later than Friday morning for the coming week's issue.

All communications should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, "COUNTRY LIFE," Southampton Street, Strand, London.

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FURS.—Avoid those tortured to death. Buy only those named on the Fur Crusade White List. Also use humane traps for rabbits, rats, mice, moles.—Write to Major VAN DER BYL, Wappenhurst, Towcester.

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
(continued.)

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TWEEDS AND BLANKETS.—Cellular Blankets from 3s. 6d. cot size; 17s. each double bed. Homespun Tweeds, 3s. yard, 28in. wide.—Write for samples, DENHOLM TWEEDS AND BLANKETS, Denholm, Roxburghshire, Scotland.

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DEVONSHIRE SCALDED CREAM, best that can be produced; samples, 1/9, 3/-, post paid.—Mrs. TUCKER, Yarford Kingston, Taunton.

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A COUNTRY LIFE PUBLICATION

The paper for the experienced amateur and professional gardener

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COUNTRY LIFE

THE JOURNAL FOR ALL INTERESTED IN COUNTRY LIFE
AND COUNTRY PURSUITS.

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Inland, 63s. Canadian, 60s. Foreign, 71s.

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AND WALTON & LEE

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(over 13,000 square feet)
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Adjoining a Golf Course.
Erected in 1912 of brick and tile with tiled roof reinforced with lead, and stands about 300ft. above sea level, facing south, on sandstone soil, with fine open views. It is in excellent order and is approached by two drives with metal surfaces, one with lodge at entrance.



Entrance and inner halls, 4 reception rooms, billiard room, 26 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, complete offices.
Companies' electric light, power, gas and water. Central heating. Septic tank drainage.
Stabling for 7. Garages for 6 with flat (5 rooms and bath) over. 2 cottages.



The
PLEASURE GROUNDS
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ABOUT 45 ACRES
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designed by an eminent architect and perfectly appointed throughout.
Spacious hall, 4 well proportioned reception rooms, billiard room, 15 bed and dressing rooms, 5 bathrooms. Central heating, electric light, excellent water supply. Garage for 6 cars with private chapel over.



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Complete range of farmbuildings.
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Cascades and rocky waterfalls; these are of inimitable natural beauty.
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Golf within easy reach.
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CHOICE BUILDING SITES WITH WOODLANDS

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SEVERAL WITH FISHING.

RANGING FROM
117 TO 410 ACRES

60 OLD COUNTRY COTTAGES

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SOME WITH LAND
AND
SOME FIRST-CLASS GARDENS

THE WHOLE ESTATE EXTENDING TO 2,036 ACRES

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BATH ABOUT 12 MILES.

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CAREFULLY RESTORED.

About 15 BEDROOMS,
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4 RECEPTION ROOMS.



ELECTRIC LIGHT AND
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WALLED KITCHEN GARDENS.

LAKE OF 7 ACRES.

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containing 11 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, hall and 3 reception rooms.

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A BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED GEORGIAN HOUSE

15 bed, 9 bathrooms, suite of reception rooms, etc.

Every up-to-date requirement and all in first-class condition. Hard Court.

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Chiltern Hills. 1 mile from Marlow Station.

SOLIDLY-BUILT HOUSE

standing well up with magnificent views, with about 20 well-proportioned rooms, 4 bathrooms.

Central heating.

Electric light.

Company's water.

GARAGE, STABLING, COTTAGES, ETC.

Inexpensive Grounds, tennis court, walled kitchen garden, orchard, parkland.

ABOUT 68 ACRES

WOULD BE LET UNFURNISHED FOR 3 YEARS

OR SELL FREEHOLD

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DORSET COAST



Premier Position in Lyme Regis

Lovely views over the harbour and the coastline towards Portland.

STONE-BUILT HOUSE

thoroughly up to date and in first-rate order.

Hall, 3 reception rooms, recreation room, 9 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, Garage.

All main services.

Beautiful terraced Gardens, quite secluded and with uninterrupted sea views, greenhouse and kitchen garden.

ABOUT 1½ ACRES



To be Sold Freehold or would be Let Furnished with immediate possession

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WEST SUSSEX COAST

A few minutes' walk from the sea.

AN EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE substantially built of brick with tiled roof, and in first-rate order throughout.

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, cloak room, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom.

All main services.

Garage.



Charming Gardens and Grounds, well stocked with flowering and evergreen shrubs, rose garden, tennis lawn flower beds and borders.

Kitchen garden.

ABOUT 1 ACRE

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A BEAUTIFUL MODERN GEORGIAN HOUSE extremely well arranged and equipped and in first-rate order throughout.

Lounge hall, 2 reception, 6-8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and complete offices. Co.'s electric light, modern septic tank drainage, water supply.

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(Knight, Frank & Rutley's advertisements continued on page iii.)



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Telephone: Regent 8222 (15 lines).

Telegrams: "Selanet, Piccy, London."



PICTURESQUE STONE-BUILT HOUSE

approached by a drive about 200 yards long.

LOUNGE (26ft. 6in. by 15ft.),
DRAWING ROOM (22ft. by 20ft.),
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STUDY.

Parquet floors.

7 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS.
3 BATHROOMS.
4 MAIDS' ROOMS.

Central Heating. Co.'s Water. Electric Light.

BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED AT WENTWORTH

Adjoining the Golf Course. 21 miles from Town. Safe retreat for business man.



DOUBLE GARAGE. Pretty and inexpensive Grounds, in all
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3 reception, day and night nurseries, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and offices.

Central Heating.
Modern Services.

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Commanding a Superb View of the Downs, on a sand and gravel soil.

FOR SALE, PICTURESQUE MODERN HOUSE IN THE TUDOR STYLE OF ARCHITECTURE

IDEALLY SITUATE IN LOVELY COUNTRY A FEW MILES FROM MIDHURST.

Central Heating. Electric Light.

LOUNGE HALL (31ft. by 18ft.),
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STUDY (25ft. by 15ft.).

All on South side of the House.



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All Public Services, including main drainage.

CHARMING GARDEN of ½ AN ACRE.

BY ORDER OF TRUSTEES.

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CONVENIENT POSITION. EASY REACH OF GOLF.
25 minutes Waterloo.

An attractive Freehold RESIDENCE.

Roomy hall, 3 large reception, 11 bed and dressing, 2 bathrooms.

Main services.

2 garages. Stabling. Useful outbuildings.

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OVER AN ACRE

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Near quiet old-world village about an hour from London by train. **FOR SALE****CHARMING OLD HOUSE**
of Tudor and Queen Anne Periods, thoroughly up-to-date

Lounge hall, 3 reception, 8 bedrooms (with lav. basins), 3 well-fitted bathrooms. Main electricity and water. Central heating. Cottage. Outbuildings. Matured gardens. 4 ACRES.

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Georgian Period Residence
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Standing high up in finely timbered gardens and paddock

PRICE £2,700

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THE SEA

In lovely wooded country, 1½ hours South of Town.

A COUNTRY HOUSE OF ARCHITECTURAL
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dating back several hundred years, now thoroughly modernised and up to date. It has panelled reception rooms, 14-15 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms. For Sale at moderate price with

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An exceptional little Residential Property of a type very difficult to obtain in this favoured part of

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Hunting (Kennels 4 miles). Trout Fishing close by. In extensive Parklands, adjoining Downs.



UP-TO-DATE GEORGIAN HOUSE

South aspect. Panoramic views. Long carriage drive. 3 reception, 6 bedrooms (with lav. basins), 2 bathrooms.

Electric light, Central Heating.

STABLING. SQUASH COURT. COTTAGE.

11 ACRES

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Privately for Sale—

Very attractive and compact Residential and Sporting Estate.

Handsome Georgian Residence

with good reception rooms, 11 principal bedrooms, servants' rooms, bathrooms.

Main Electricity and Water

Ample Garages and Stabling.

It stands on sandy soil

in Parklands

Golf Course on Property.

Squash Court.

Cottages.

SOMERSET



4 miles Blackmore Vale Kennels. Short drive Templecombe Junction Station.

The Estate comprises several farms, Village Inn, 70 acres woods, etc.; and produces (irrespective of the House, Woods and lands in hand) an

INCOME OF OVER £1,100 p.a.

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IN A PERFECTLY SAFE AREA

RURAL SURREY—VERY EASY DAILY REACH OF LONDON

High up, with extensive panoramic views.

FINE OLD GEORGIAN HOUSE

thoroughly up-to-date and in good order. 4 reception, 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

2 Cottages. Garages. 20 Acres.

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INTERSECTED BY A STREAM

For Sale by OSBORN & MERCER. (17,099.)

WELL-WOODED ESTATE OF 1,000 ACRES IN DORSET

For Sale at an attractive price with

A CHARMING OLD STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE

of medium size. The Agricultural Lands are let at an average rental of £1 per acre. There is excellent Shooting and there is a

USEFUL STRETCH OF TROUT FISHING

Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (16,012.)

Residence would be
sold with smaller area.

AMIDST FINELY WOODED SUSSEX COUNTRY

in a completely rural situation, yet convenient for London.

Beautifully Appointed Up-to-date Country House of Queen Anne character



4 reception rooms, 11 bedrooms (with lav. basins), 5 tiled bathrooms. Electric Light. Main Water. Central Heating.

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COTTAGES. HOME FARM.

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44 ACRES

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Just in the Market

BETWEEN WINCHESTER AND PETERSFIELD

in most sought-after, and first-rate Sporting District, with facilities for Hunting, Shooting and Fishing in Itchen and Meon Rivers. Also near Golf Course. High up, facing South.

CLOSE TO DOWNS, AND WITH PANORAMIC VIEWS.

surrounded by charming, matured Gardens, and Pasture.

UP-TO-DATE
COUNTRY
HOUSE
OF MERIT4 reception.
9 bedrooms.
3 bathrooms.
Main Electricity.
Central Heating,
Etc.

STABLING. SQUASH COURT. 60 ACRES.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED BY THE AGENTS, FROM PERSONAL INSPECTION.

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And at
Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,
West Halkin St., Belgrave Sq.,
12, Victoria Street,
Westminster, S.W.1.**NOTICE.** GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS beg to give notice that, owing to a large number of their staff being called up for Military or other Government Duties, it has been necessary to reorganize their Office arrangements, and that as from the 16th inst. their Branch at 5, West Halkin Street, Belgrave Square, S.W.1, will be incorporated in their Offices at 13, Hobart Place, S.W.1, and all further communications should be made to this address. Their Offices at 12, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.1, will be open as usual.

Messrs. George Trollope & Sons' country estate business will still be carried on at their Offices at 25, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, W.1, where they have a large register of country properties available either for Sale or Letting. Also there remain available large country residences suitable for the accommodation of Schools, Business Firms, etc.

FURNISHED HOUSES FOR LONG OR SHORT PERIOD

WEST SUSSEX.—FINE OLD RESIDENCE. 12 bed, 4 bath, 3 reception rooms. Modern Conveniences. 38 ACRES.**WORCS.**—UNIQUE MOATED GRANGE, fully modernised. 15 bed, 4 bath, fine suite reception rooms. Garages; Cottages and Rooms. 13 ACRES.

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GLOS.—HISTORICAL OLD ABBEY, with 800 acres Shooting. 16 bed, 4 bath, handsome reception rooms. Modern Conveniences. Garages; Stabling; Man's Rooms and Cottages.**WILTS.**—GEORGIAN HOUSE, redecorated. On Downs. 12 bed, 4 bath, 4 reception rooms. Stabling; Garage. Charming Grounds. Shooting over 1,200 Acres available.

BEAUTIFUL OLD GROUNDS AND PARK.

OR FOR SALE.

HASLEMERE.—Beautiful PERIOD HOUSE, 600ft. up in notably lovely Gardens. 10 bed, 5 bath, 5 reception rooms. Modern Conveniences. Grounds 11 Acres. 90 ACRES in all.**KENT.**—Beautiful unspoiled position. 13 bed, 3 bath, 5 reception rooms. Main water; electricity. Garages; Stabling and Rooms. Grounds with Lake and Boathouse. Whole estate 670 ACRES.

OR FOR SALE.

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS have numerous other Properties, large and small, available in all districts. A selected list will be sent on receipt of requirements.

IN ONE OF THE
MOST PEACEFUL SPOTS IN SURREY

Occupying a beautiful unspoiled position on the

SOUTH SLOPE OF HOLMBURY HILL.



24 ACRES

Particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. (c.1597.)

EMINENTLY SUITABLE FOR SCHOOL OR OTHER INSTITUTION.

£7,500 WITH 100 ACRES

WOULD BE SOLD WITH LESS LAND OR LET UNFURNISHED OR FURNISHED.

FINE ELIZABETHAN-STYLE RESIDENCE

in well-timbered park-land, 400ft. above sea on the borders of

SALOP

AND

CHESHIRE.

within easy reach of Liverpool and Manchester.

It contains some 30 bedrooms, 5 large reception rooms, etc.

Stabling. Garage. 3 Cottages.



WELL-TIMBERED GROUNDS AND PARKLAND

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TWIXT
COTSWOLDS AND MALVERNS*Three-quarters of a mile of Private Trout Fishing included.*
300ft. above sea level, Southern and Western aspects; magnificent panoramic views. Hall and 3 sitting rooms, 12 bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, servants' hall. Electric light. Central heating. Independent hot water. Septic tank drainage. Stabling, garage and outbuildings. 2 Cottages. WELL-TIMBERED GARDENS AND GROUNDS, walled kitchen garden and parklike pasture; in all about

28 ACRES

MOST MODERATE PRICE accepted for QUICK SALE.
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FURNISHED HOUSES

HASLEMERE (1½ miles).—PICTURESQUE OLD-WORLD RESIDENCE, with delightful grounds and swimming pool. 2-3 sitting rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Modernised.

8 GNS. P.W.

TONBRIDGE (3 miles).—CHARMING MODERN HOUSE, in a safe area, yet 35-45 minutes from London. Lounge 2 reception, 4-5 bedrooms, etc. Main services.

6 GNS. P.W.

HERTS.—Rural locality, daily reach of London. QUEEN ANNE HOUSE, with 10-11 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, and all conveniences. Set in lovely Grounds of about 20 ACRES.

12 GNS. P.W.

ARUNDEL (4 miles).—HANDSOME QUEEN ANNE HOUSE, in particularly charming grounds. 9 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Well-furnished and modern appointments.

6, 12 or 18 months at 10 GNS. P.W.

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9 GNS. P.W.

CHILTERN

In a favourite district with fast motor road to London, which is about 25 miles.

XVth CENTURY RESIDENCE

with additions in keeping. The whole in wonderful order, having been the subject of a very large expenditure. Large hall, 2 reception, magnificent billiard or dance room, 7 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms.

Central heating and main services.

Lovely old Barns and Outbuildings.

DELIGHTFUL GARDENS in keeping with the house, orchard, etc.; about 4 ACRES.

FOR SALE OR TO LET UNFURNISHED
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JOHN D. PALMER has for disposal at most reasonable prices numerous properties in the counties of Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow and Tipperary, including large and small houses, with or without land, also numerous large and small Farms, for Sale and Letting.

Ideal situations in quiet surroundings out of the range of Air Raids.

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WELL-FURNISHED
MODERN DETACHED HOUSE

2 reception, 4 bedrooms (interior sprung mattresses), electric fires, kitchen and scullery, bath (h. and c., separate lavatory). Big garage. Electric light. Large gardens back and front. Middle October to end of February.

Wireless. Telephone.

EVERY HOME COMFORT. £3 3s. PER WEEK,
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Plate included.

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LONDON

CURTIS & HENSON

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EMPTY AND EVACUATED PROPERTIES

CURTIS & HENSON WILL BE PLEASED TO UNDERTAKE THE SUPERVISION OF EVACUATED PREMISES, GENERALLY MANAGE AND REGULARLY INSPECT EITHER RESIDENTIAL OR COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES, AND MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR REPAIRS TO BE CARRIED OUT WHEN NECESSARY. ALSO TO UNDERTAKE THE MANAGEMENT OF COUNTRY ESTATES

VALUATION OF BUILDINGS

VALUATIONS WHICH MAY BE NECESSARY IN SUPPORT OF FUTURE CLAIMS FOR WAR LOSS OR DAMAGE CARRIED OUT AND REPORTS SUPPLIED

PROPERTIES AVAILABLE

A LARGE NUMBER OF PROPERTIES AVAILABLE EITHER TO RENT OR PURCHASE, SUITABLE FOR BOTH RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PURPOSES, FURNISHED AND UNFURNISHED. A SELECTED LIST WILL BE FORWARDED ON APPLICATION TO CURTIS & HENSON, 5, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE.

IN A FAVOURITE SURREY DISTRICT

NEAR FRENSHAM PONDS AND HINDHEAD. LONDON JUST OVER 40 MILES.



MOST PLEASING RESIDENCE
built in the farmhouse style.
Up to date and in first-class order throughout.
3 RECEPTION ROOMS,
8 BEDROOMS,
2 BATHROOMS.
Main water, gas and electricity.
GARAGE (for 2 cars).
2 EXCELLENT COTTAGES.
Delightful playroom.
LAWN TENNIS COURT.
PROLIFIC KITCHEN GARDEN.



Beautiful Grounds of very great charm. Fine woodland merging into heathland and several paddocks.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH FROM ABOUT 25 TO 72 ACRES

GOLF AT HINDHEAD. RIDING OVER MILES OF COMMONLAND

Confidently recommended by the Sole Agents, CURTIS & HENSON. (16,432.)

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4 MILES FROM DORCHESTER. 25 MILES FROM LONDON.

SMALL SPORTING ESTATE BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED IN FAVOURITE DISTRICT



ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE of Tudor Style occupying a sheltered position.
Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, 12 principal bedrooms, 4 bathrooms.
Central Heating.
Good Water Supply. Electric Light.
Garages and useful Outbuildings.
WELL-TIMBERED GROUNDS, forming a delightful setting for the Residence.
THE ESTATE
extends to nearly 400 Acres including some valuable Woodland.
Home Farm with a Jacobean Residence, let with over 350 Acres at £300 p.a.



SEVERAL EXCELLENT COTTAGES RECENTLY PLACED IN THE MARKET FOR SALE.

MODERATE PRICE TAKEN

EVERY FACILITY FOR SPORT IN THE DISTRICT

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LOVELY POSITION NEAR DEVON COAST OVERLOOKING THE RIVER EXE



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"SARRAS," Near EXMOUTH

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

7 BEDROOMS. BATHROOM.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS.

Main electric light and water.

Central Heating.

Large Garage. Useful Outbuildings.

ATTRACTIVE GARDENS AND ORCHARD.

ABOUT 1½ ACRES.

Golf. Yachting. Fishing. Tennis.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION AT EXMOUTH,
on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH NEXT
(unless previously sold privately).

Solicitors: Messrs. W. LINFORD, BROWN & SONS,
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14, Mount Street, W.1.



**NEAR BRISTOL. IN THE BEST RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT—HIGH UP
OVERLOOKING CLIFTON DOWNS**

BEAUTIFULLY-APPOINTED STONE-BUILT MODERN HOUSE

IN PERFECT ORDER WITH EVERY UP-TO-DATE CONVENIENCE; PASSENGER LIFT; CONSTANT HOT WATER
ALL MAIN SERVICES; CHOICE FIREPLACES.

6 BEDROOMS. 2 BATHROOMS. 3 VERY FINE RECEPTION ROOMS. STAFF SITTING ROOM.
GARAGE FOR 4 CARS. CHAUFFEUR'S ROOM.

DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS OF ABOUT AN ACRE.

Recently the subject of enormous expenditure

A LOW PRICE WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR QUICK SALE

Sole Agents: WILSON & CO., 14, Mount Street, London, W.1.

OUTSKIRTS OF OLD-WORLD HERTFORDSHIRE VILLAGE



½ hour from London. 400ft. above sea level.

LOVELY OLD QUEEN ANNE MANOR

in faultless order with all
Main Services and Central Heating.

8 BEDROOMS. 3 BATHROOMS.
LOUNGE HALL. 3 RECEPTION ROOMS.

Garages. Cottage.

DELIGHTFUL BUT INEXPENSIVE GARDENS.

Hard tennis court; paddock nearly

3 ACRES.

**FOR IMMEDIATE SALE OR BY
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ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY
LIST AND FULL DETAILS ON APPLICATION**

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BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY.

FISHING ON TEST can be arranged.

TO BE LET FURNISHED.

CHARMING MANOR HOUSE

12 BEDROOMS, 5 BATHROOMS,
4 RECEPTION AND PLAY ROOM.

PRETTY GARDENS OF 3 ACRES.

REASONABLE RENT FURNISHED

TURNER LORD & RANSOM, 127, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

ON THE CHILTERNNS

TO LET OR SALE

In country near Chesham.

4 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, LOUNGE AND
2 RECEPTION ROOMS, CLOAKROOM.

Oak fittings. Radiators.

"Ideal" Boiler.

USUAL OFFICES.

2 ACRES

8 GNS. PER WEEK FURNISHED, immediate possession; or FREEHOLD £3,500
(16,372)

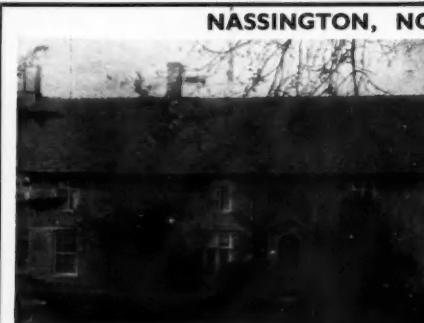
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Sale of a valuable FREEHOLD AND TITHE-FREE
FARM of 185 ACRES, with substantial stone Farmhouse in
the well known residential village of Bloxham, near Banbury,
within easy reach of Oxford, Leamington, Coventry, Birmingham,
Northampton, London, etc. For Sale with vacant
possession in October, 1939.—Full particulars from the
Agents, Messrs. E. P. MESSENGER & SON, 4, King Edward
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THE ONLY COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED REGISTER.

Price 2/6.

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RIPPON, BOSWELL & CO., F.A.I.
(Est. 1884.) EXETER.



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MESSRS. HODGKINSON & SON

will sell by auction on THURSDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER,
at 6 p.m. the

ATTRACTIVE OLD-WORLD STONE-BUILT COUNTRY RESIDENCE

known as "NASSINGTON HOUSE," standing in pleasant
grounds in the aforesaid village, which is approximately
7 miles from Oundle, 8 miles from Peterborough, and
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IN THE PRODUCTIVE FEN COUNTRY (BETWEEN ELY AND STOKE FERRY)

ELY IS 10 MILES, LITTLEPORT 5 MILES, DOWNHAM MARKET 7 MILES, WISBECH 17 MILES AND NEWMARKET IS ONLY 22 MILES DISTANT. CAMBRIDGE IS WITHIN 40 MINUTES' RUN BY CAR.

AS A WHOLE

THE IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING PROPERTY

FREEHOLD

WELL KNOWN AS

THE WISSINGTON ESTATE 5,170 ACRES

COMPRISED 16 VALUABLE TILLAGE FARMS

FOURSCORES FARM	132 ACRES.	FIVE MILE HOUSE FARM	150 ACRES.
KEYS FARM	96 "	POULTRY FARM	193 "
PORTER'S FARM	66 "	SEVERALS FARM	75 "
SEDGE FEN FARM	250 "	PIONEER FARM	84 "
POPPYLOT FARM (part)	106 "	DECAY FARM	56 "
CATSHOLME FARM	186 "	PROSPECT FARM	174 "
FIVE MILE FARM	521 "	BRIDGE FARM	94 "
FARM, METHWOLD FEN	77 "	POPPYLOT FARM (part)	135 "

NUMEROUS SMALL HOLDINGS.

MARKET GARDENING AND ACCOMMODATION LAND.

COLVILLE HOUSE, LITTLEPORT.

FOURTEEN MILES OF PRIVATE FULL-GAUGE RAILWAY.

THE WHOLE, EXCLUDING THE LANDS IN HAND, PRODUCING A GROSS RENTAL OF ABOUT

PER £6,216 ANNUM

WHICH WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY AUCTION AS A WHOLE (unless Sold Privately meanwhile) by

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

AT THE SALEROOM, 23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1, ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH, 1939, AT 2.30 P.M.

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have a competent Staff of Valuers for all classes of Property including Furniture and Works of Art and are still carrying on their business and will endeavour to continue to do so at

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

N.B.—Many Mansions available for Sale or Letting in all parts of the country.

SUITABLE FOR PRIVATE
RESIDENCE OR A.R.P.

Radlett 2 miles, Potter's Bar 4, Barnet 5
and St. Albans 5 miles.

All the principal rooms face south
and command lovely panoramic
views.

Beautifully appointed
RESIDENCE
with

12 BED, 3 BATH and 4 RECEPTION
ROOMS and GOOD HALL.

APPROACHED BY A NICE AVENUE
CARRIAGE DRIVE WITH 2 LODGE
ENTRANCES.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT.
WATER AND DRAINAGE.
CENTRAL HEATING.



FOR SALE AT A REASONABLE PRICE

Inspected and strongly recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (41,669.)

TO BE SOLD

BERKS AND SURREY BORDERS

ABOUT 250FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL, OVERLOOKING ENGLEFIELD GREEN, WITHIN 11 MILES OF EGHAM STATION, 31 MINUTES FROM WATERLOO.
CLOSE TO NOTED GOLF COURSES AND WITHIN A MILE OF WINDSOR GREAT PARK.

THIS BEAUTIFUL EARLY GEORGIAN HOUSE

with

9 OR 10 BEDROOMS,

2 BATHROOMS,

HALL,

BILLIARDS AND 2 RECEPTION
ROOMS,

VERY FINE PERIOD STAIRCASE
AND SECONDARY STAIRCASE,

SERVANTS' SITTING ROOM AND
EXCELLENT OFFICES.



REASONABLE PRICE WILL BE ACCEPTED

Inspected and strongly recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, W.1. (20,362.)

Main electric light, gas, water and
Drainage. Telephone.

STABLING FOR 4.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS,
with man's room over.

Laundry and Outbuildings.

LOVELY SECLUDED
GROUNDS,

shaded by fine old forest timber, yew
hedges, rhododendrons, tennis lawn, etc.,
in all about

3 ACRES

JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

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DORSET

11 MILES DORCHESTER, 2 MILES BLANDFORD.

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MILTON ABBEY ESTATE

at Winterbourne Houghton, Hilton and Winterbourne Stickland.

9 MIXED FARMS from 33 Acres to 194 Acres, 7 SMALL HOLDINGS from 4 Acres to 34 Acres;
 214 ACRES OF ARABLE, MEADOW AND PASTURE LAND divided into 11 suitable Lots, 59 ACRES OF WOODLANDS in 2 Lots,
 85 ACRES OF DOWN AND VALLEY LAND; 52 OLD-WORLD COTTAGES, BUNGALOWS AND GARDENS, 2 SMALL RESIDENCES AND GARDENS.
 15 Building Sites; School House; Estate Office and Agent's Quarters; Village Stores; Piggery and Land; Butcher's Premises; Spacious Barn; Allotments and Waterworks;
 the whole extending to an area of about

1156 ACRES

Owing to Milton Abbas Village being unsold on September 14th, 1939, as a whole, the 47 Lots comprising the Village Properties will be offered for sale separately at Bournemouth with the above properties.

Also 3 FARMS AT NOTTON, in the Parish of Frampton, near Maiden Newton, together covering an area of about 551 ACRES.

FOX & SONS

are favoured with instructions to SELL BY AUCTION, in 80 Lots, at their Property Mart, Cairns House, St. Peter's Road, Bournemouth, on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12TH, 1939, in Two Sessions, at 11.0 a.m. and 2.0 p.m. precisely (unless previously sold privately).

Solicitors for Milton Abbey Estate: CLAUDE MEESON, Esq., Midland Bank Chambers, Ringwood, Hants.

Solicitors for Frampton Farms: MESSRS. LORD & PARKER, 3, Foregate Street, Worcester.

Particulars, plans and conditions of sale (price 2s.) may be obtained of the Solicitors (as above); or of the Auctioneers: MESSRS. FOX & SONS, Bournemouth, Southampton and Brighton.

SOMERSET

COMMANDING SOME OF THE FINEST PANORAMIC VIEWS IN THE COUNTY. HUNTING WITH THE BLACKMORE VALE AND MISS GUEST'S HOUNDS.
 TO BE SOLD.

A CHOICE SMALL FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL ESTATE WITH ATTRACTIVE STONE-BUILT HOUSE



containing:
 6 principal bedrooms (all with basins, h. and c. water supply, and one having bath),
 3 servants' rooms, 2 bathrooms, large room suitable for playroom or gymnasium, 4 other rooms, 3 reception rooms, music room, servants' hall, butler's bedroom, complete offices.

Good stabling and garages.

2 EXCELLENT COTTAGES.
 Electric lighting plant. Company's water.

Radiators in all principal bedrooms and reception rooms.
 BEAUTIFUL GARDENS AND GROUNDS, with wide spreading lawns, herbaceous borders, hard tennis court, kitchen garden; excellent pasture lands; the whole extending to an area of about

35 ACRES



VIEW FROM RESIDENCE

Full particulars may be obtained of FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth, who have inspected and can thoroughly recommend the Property.

SOUTH HAMPSHIRE

WITHIN A SHORT DISTANCE OF THE COAST.

Bounded by private park and safe from future building development.

Facing due South and enjoying perfect seclusion.

FOR SALE

this beautiful small

JACOBEAN MANOR HOUSE

dating between 1611 and 1640 and recently restored.

7 BEDROOMS.

4 BATHROOMS.



PANELLED DRAWING ROOM.
 DINING ROOM.
 LARGE LIVING ROOM.
 MAIDS' SITTING ROOM.
 GOOD DOMESTIC OFFICES.

GARAGE (2 CARS).

Main water and electricity.

DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS
 intersected by a stream.

ORCHARD, WOODLAND AND MEADOW.

In all about

1½ ACRES

PRICE £3,950 FREEHOLD

Particulars may be obtained of FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

WITHIN A FEW MINUTES OF THE CENTRE OF NEWMARKET



6 EXPENSIVELY FITTED
BATHROOMS,

3 SPACIOUS RECEPTION ROOMS,
 SUN LOUNGE AND LOGGIA,
 COMPLETE OFFICES.

GARAGES

(with living accommodation over).

3 COTTAGES (one fitted as a small private residence).

CHARMING GROUNDS
 of about

3½ ACRES

Particulars of the Sole Agents, FOX & SONS, 44-50, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

ESTATE

'Phone: Ken. 1490.
'Grams: "Estate
Harrods, London."

HARRODS

KNIGHTSBRIDGE HOUSE,
62/64, BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1

OFFICES

West Byfleet
and Haslemere.
Riviera Offices.



Inspected and specially recommended by the Sole Agents: HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tele.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 816.)

A DELIGHTFUL LITTLE CHARACTER HOUSE
54 MILES FROM LONDON

On a hillside facing due South and commanding views over exquisite Kentish scenery.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS. 6 BEDROOMS.
DRESSING ROOM. 2 BATHROOMS.
LINEN ROOM. BOXROOM.
GARDEN ROOM. CLOAKROOM.
EXCELLENT DOMESTIC OFFICES.

Co.'s water. Main drainage.
Electric light and gas available.

GARAGE AND WORKSHOP.

Beautiful orchard, paddock and woodland.

IN ALL 9½ ACRES
FREEHOLD FOR SALE

c.53.



ADJOINING FAVOURITE SURREY GOLF-COURSE

In a private road away from traffic. Station ½ mile. Waterloo 36 minutes.



Recommended by HARRODS, LTD., Surrey Estate Office, West Byfleet. (Tele.: Byfleet 149), and 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tele.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 809.)

PICTURESQUE AND WELL-EQUIPPED
MODERN RESIDENCE

recently the subject of considerable expenditure and in good order. 7 bed, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception, lounge hall, offices and maids' sitting room.

EXCELLENT DOUBLE GARAGE.

Conservatory. Outbuildings.

Lavatory basins in 4 bedrooms. Parquet floors.

All main services.

Delightful and profusely stocked grounds of about 14 Acres, affording complete seclusion and with gate to Golf Course.

Green Fernden Hard Tennis Court, lawns, rockery, etc.

FREEHOLD £5,000

By/c.2



PRIVATE BEACH ON THE SHORES OF THE SOLENT

Picked situation. Handy for New Forest, Southampton, and enjoying uninterrupted views. Immune from Air Raids.



FASCINATING ULTRA MODERN
HOUSE

approached by drive 400 yards long.
Hall, 2 reception, boudoir, 5 bed, 2 bathrooms, good offices, annexe for guests.

GARAGE (for 2 cars), etc.

REALLY DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS

fully established; tennis and other lawns; kitchen and flower gardens; paddock, etc.; in all

OVER 5 ACRES

GOLF. HUNTING. SHOOTING. YACHTING.

VERY REASONABLE TERMS

FOR SALE OR MIGHT BE LET FURNISHED.

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VIEW FROM VERANDAH.

c.4.



SOUTH AFRICA

BETWEEN 4 AND 5 MILES OF CAPE TOWN

Amidst beautiful surroundings about 1 mile from the University of Cape Town.

DOUBLE-STOREY RESIDENCE

Comprising large entrance hall, sitting room, dining room, studio (65ft. by 40ft.), 5 bedrooms (with built-in wash basins), 2 large built-in baths, w.c., etc., store room, cloakroom, w.c., kitchen, servy, servants' room, double room, bathroom, and w.c. Garage; workshop (which can be converted), boy's room, w.c.; rondavel for 2 servants. Beautifully laid-out grounds, with shady trees, etc.

EXTENDING TO APPROXIMATELY 5 ACRES.

ALSO 2 SMALL COTTAGES

(at present let), each containing 2 rooms, kitchen, bathroom and garage.

PRICE FOR MAIN RESIDENCE and

2 SMALL COTTAGES, £10,000.

2 SMALLER RESIDENCES COULD BE PURCHASED IN ADDITION.



Full details of HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tele.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 814.)

c.5.



STRATFORD-ON-AVON

c.4.

2 miles from the Town, 12 miles from Broadway and handy for Birmingham.



1½ ACRES

ONLY £150 A YEAR UNFURNISHED

HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tele.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 806); and Mr. E. AUBREY DEER, Union Street, Stratford-on-Avon.

ON THE CREST OF BOAR'S HILL, OXFORD

c.14.

Picked position with beautiful view over Vale of White Horse.



PRICE £3,950, or AUCTION EARLY OCTOBER

Strongly recommended by the Sole Agents, HARRODS, LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tele.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 803.)

F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY ESTATES AND HOUSES
SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1.

Telephone: REGENT 2481.

Owners of Country properties of good character desirous of selling are requested to send particulars to F. L. Mercer & Co., who will inspect and photograph free of charge. They deal solely in the sale of this class of property and have exceptional facilities for the prompt introduction of buyers.

A LITTLE "LUXURY HOME" OF COTTAGE CHARACTER

AMIDST KENTISH CHERRY ORCHARDS.



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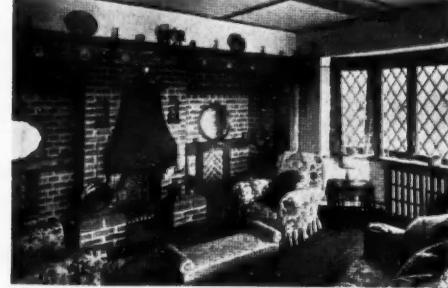
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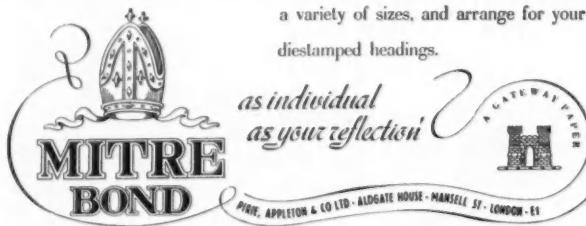
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CARRYING ON

"EVEN seen through a gas-mask England is still England and none of us need, happily, wear his gas mask all the time." It is in the spirit of this aphorism that COUNTRY LIFE addresses itself to its task to-day. In the last war COUNTRY LIFE carried on, and it intends, so long as it may be physically possible, to carry on now. Some restrictions, concerning which we make no complaint, have already been imposed. Submission to them is, in part, the citizen's share in the common cause. Thus far they have not impeded the normal production of this journal. Others may follow. Paper may be rationed, the mechanical functions of the Press may be interrupted, a dearth of skilled labour in the printing trade may develop. All will have their repressive effect upon ourselves and our friends engaged in the production of weekly and monthly papers and magazines. In advance of the event, therefore—still no more than problematical—we will crave the indulgence of our readers lest, despite all our efforts to prevent it, the COUNTRY LIFE they have so long known appear in an unfamiliar war-time guise.

But it is the present that is our concern to-day ; and therein it is our purpose to continue to produce a paper that shall still reflect the spirit and the substance of the England that exists in moor and downland, in mansion and hamlet, in the ploughed field and the swift-running beck. War comes, and even the remote countryside does not escape its repercussions ; the black-out is as intense in the Yorkshire dales as in Pall Mall ; the wardens are no less zealous in the Cotswolds than in Kensington ; but even with the modifications of its normal life, imperative and inevitable, to which the nation from end to end has, at a stroke, submitted, the processes of life continue, the unchanging march of nature and of the seasons, the going to and fro in the land about the business of the land. The sirens may echo through the farmyard, but the harvest will still be brought home. And more than this, if man cannot live by bread alone, no more can he subsist on war alone. We cannot, because we are a nation at war, cast aside all the things of normal daily life. And we must have relaxation. For the time being a ban has been placed on

sport and entertainment ; rightly, in these early days before we are wholly adjusted to the new situation, before any of us know quite what to expect, the gathering of crowds is to be discouraged. But we shall find as the days go by that we are not so barren of invention that we cannot amuse ourselves out of doors, even when "the Hun is at the gate"—there were foxhounds in the Peninsula, there were bowls at Plymouth. As a nation we are not given to cracking under nervous tension. But we shall need re-invigorating as the tension persists, and we shall best come by re-invigoration through a diversification of employment, by the provision of a refuge from such fears as may assail us, and assuredly no such refuge exists comparable with that to be found in the pursuits and pastimes of the open air and in the contemplation of the English countryside.

To such relief it will be the task of COUNTRY LIFE to make its proper contribution. It will reflect, but only as circumstances demand, the incursion of the atmosphere of war into the realm it has, through half a century, made peculiarly its own, the realm which embraces the whole gamut of those things which are the substance of our culture and the background of what is best in English life. It will continue to illustrate and describe the homes, and the sports and pastimes of country-loving folk, the way of a bird in the air, the life of field and forest—for in so doing we believe it will provide a welcome solace for "the tongueless vigil and all the pain."

And in its own way most intimately associated with these things is the vast and vital industry of agriculture. It has always been and still is in the forefront of COUNTRY LIFE's programme. We have welcomed, with such comment and suggestion as we have deemed relevant and constructive, steps that have of late been taken towards the rehabilitation of the industry. Necessity, meanwhile, has created opportunity, and surely the present Minister of Agriculture has a greater chance, as he also has a more urgent need, than most of his predecessors to increase home food-production. Germane to this vital matter is the first instalment of "The Farmer's Business," of which we begin serial publication to-day. The writer is an authority on all matters associated with the land, but having entered the national service, he chooses for sufficient reasons to use a pseudonym. Whatever the effect of war upon farming, the fundamentals of good practice remain the same, so that the views of our contributor lose none of their essential cogency. And, while writing of food-production, we would intrude a word of caution. Let no one imagine that indiscriminate ploughing and sowing, digging and planting, is a real contribution. The thing has got to be soundly organised, and any repetition of the hysterical excursions into agriculture which occurred in the last war, when flower-beds and lawns were feverishly hacked up that half a sack of—frequently inferior—potatoes might be grown, are to be avoided. Grass and flowers still have their gracious part in our daily lives ; to undermine the nurseryman's business is not patriotism, nor will the interests of the nation, even in this dire period, be furthered by jettisoning the great bloodstock industry and throwing into penury the men and their dependents who must maintain it. We have entered this war with the Prime Minister's assurance of our preparedness ringing in our ears, and we do not need to remind ourselves with what fine spirit our fighting Services will translate that preparedness into terms of action. At present the curtain of essential secrecy largely obscures their activities and movements, but every day there also proceeds the rush of all sorts and conditions of men and women to serve their country in one way and another ; meanwhile there remains the home front, the vast body of men, women and children upon whom the maintenance of the normal life of the nation depends. It must be kept in good heart. This is a mutual task to which organisations no less than individuals can and must contribute. It calls for unselfishness and sympathy and for the cultivation of a tranquil mind ; for the will to continue to practise, in all our contacts, so far as a state of war will allow, a balanced and sane view of an abnormal situation. Above all, we must go on with the task of supporting the things that make it and have made it worth while being Englishmen, until at last the gas masks can be thrown into the midden and a free race can again go wholly free.

COUNTRY NOTES



THE BRITISH SOLDIER

IN this fortnight a war Army has come into being. Immediately on its outbreak there seemed to be uniformed figures everywhere, sprung Cadmus-like fully armed in a night. This was one of the startling contrasts with 1914, recalling rather the universal khaki of that war's latter years. Inevitably one casts back for comparisons. It is not only in their numbers, nor in their equipment, means of progression, and uniform that the British soldiers of to-day seem different from their fathers. No one dreams of calling them "Tommies" any more than expecting to find Old Bill among them. The impression given is of bronzed, sensible young men alternating with smart, efficient fellows of maturer years, definitely individuals as contrasted with "blokes." The explanation is presumably the disappearance of the long-service soldier. The modern short-service Regular is a young man, and the Reservist, though little older, already a self-respecting, intelligent citizen whose mind has been sharpened by his interval of civilian life. The whole atmosphere of the Army gives the same impression: of rational co-operation having replaced the older discipline of the barrack square.

THE INDIVISIBLE ARMY

AMONG the spate of war legislation which received the Royal Assent last week was an Armed Forces (Conditions of Service) Act which changes the constitution of the Army, in such a way that it, at least temporarily, loses its former subdivisions. All serving soldiers and all recruits are in future to have exactly the same status and the same conditions, and may be transferred from any one unit to any other. This is an outright adoption of the Continental system of conscription which will, during the war, avoid many of the serious administrative drawbacks which we had to face between 1914 and 1918. On the other hand it sacrifices local loyalties and moral advantages which many people had hoped to retain for future generations. It is said that the change is not a slight to the T.A., "but rather a reward fully earned." Terriers may be allowed a smile at this, when they remember that both 1914 and 1939 found them already trained for service and not waiting to be called to serve. However, this is no time for worrying about such matters. As the Government would no doubt reply, "a voluntary Army, quite apart from its inconvenience, destroys the moral basis of compulsory service"; and anyhow, no Terrier cares to-day what uniform he wears so long as it is the King's.

AFTER-HARVEST PLANS

THE "after-harvest" plans for increasing food production are gradually being disclosed. The majority of farmers have been given general directions by the Minister to think in terms of ploughing-up both for human food and animal feeding-stuffs. The County Executive Committees will ultimately be responsible for seeing that the utmost that can be done is done in their areas. But they have first to make, or complete, a thorough survey of the farmlands for which they are responsible. Meanwhile farmers are to fill in the time by ploughing up at least

10 per cent. of their present grassland. If this has been under grass for seven years, the ploughing-up grant of £2 per acre will be extended till the end of the year to cover it. As for the first crops, wheat should be sown where it is likely to be satisfactory, and alternatively potatoes, oats, barley, beans, peas, rye or mixed corn. The levy on the excess acreage of potatoes is to be removed. Farmers are advised, for the present, to go on buying their ordinary supplies of machinery, oil, fertilisers, feeding-stuffs and seeds from their usual merchants. The Government will take over such matters later. Marketing should proceed as usual, except for the fact that this year's wheat harvest should be kept in stack on the farm as long as possible. Farmers are urged not to take hasty steps to reduce their flocks and herds. No shortage of feeding-stuffs is at present anticipated. Farmers, says the Minister, can best help at the moment by co-operating to the fullest degree with their County Executive Committees, and trusting them as friends and as men who know their job. Uncertainties and delays are bound to happen, but the farmer should carry on, using his own judgment and getting on with the job as well as he can.

OUT OF WORK

(PRINCE—A SPRINGER)

Rowans gleam scarlet and the robins sing :
With spiders' silver nets the lawn is spread :
Floats in the sun a single gossamer thread,
And from the moors the shots are echoing.

Prince hears them, sitting tensely by my side,
His nose a-twist, his head and ears held high.
He knows what's happening, and wonders why
He gets no shooting since his master died.

What joy it was to work with all his powers
Of scent, speed, sight and strength, and busy brain.
Proud to retrieve birds others sought in vain
For the belov'd companion of those hours.

Poor Prince ! I grieve for you. Those thrills are past,
Those days of sport and happy memories.
Your occupation's gone. Doomed to a life of ease
A useless "woman's dog" you'll die at last.

MABEL M. BOASE.

HUNTING IN WAR TIME

THE M.F.H. Association have sent a circular to the Masters of Foxhounds, pointing out how prejudicial it would be to the country in general if hunting were allowed to lapse altogether. They recommend it shall continue as local conditions permit, in order to kill foxes and keep the packs going. The difficulties will be great. Already staffs are depleted by the calling up of men. Many a Master, huntsman and whipper-in is already serving his country, but we have no doubt their places will be filled in some manner. Many a woman "huntsman" will now cheer hounds into covert and help to keep the old sport from coming to a standstill. It will be a sad day for the English countryside if it does so for good. The position at the moment is this: cub-hunting is proceeding, if not as usual, as well as can be managed, with the help of old men, young boys and women, and it is understood that rationing of horses and hounds will eventually come into force. In the meantime Masters are taking stock of their packs, reducing them and "putting on" such hounds only as they will definitely need to keep down foxes, for in war-time hunting must not be looked upon simply as a form of sport. Nevertheless, we remember what a solace it was to home-coming members of the Forces during the Great War. We kept it going then; may we be able to do so now, will be the hope of all readers of COUNTRY LIFE.

AFTER EVACUATION

NOW that the exodus of a million and a half women and children is complete, the real problems created can be seen and measures taken to meet them. As was expected by the receivers, there are many misfits. Even if a large majority of the evacuees are contented and doing their best to help their hosts in the business of re-adjusting their lives, information is not lacking that in almost every

community there are difficult cases, and in most a proportion that are insoluble on the house-sharing basis. From many villages come reports of evacuees returning to their homes in disgust, and in others there is an impression that, for any length of time, it is impossible to expect town and country families, often of entirely different status and habits, to settle down together. In some villages energetic initiative has pointed the way to elucidating a problem that, we are now told, may last for three years. All unoccupied buildings have been taken over—empty cottages, stables, garages—hastily adapted and furnished, and converted into separate or communal homes for refugees. Local subscriptions supplementing the billeting allowances have met the cost in these improvised cases, but obviously the urban and rural authorities involved will have to go over the whole ground methodically, not only as regards housing, but to take measures for the health of communities in the coming winter months. Can the whole billeting scheme, in its present form, be regarded as more than an emergency measure? The answer surely is that, besides the use of all unoccupied buildings, the construction of large numbers of semi-permanent houses will be necessitated eventually. In that case, the sooner their types and construction are specified, their sites determined, and the whole complex business planned out, the less the likelihood of characteristic war-time muddles.

GOOD-BYE TO CRICKET

THE cricket season of 1939 will long be remembered for its sudden and untimely cutting short at the beginning of September. At present its memories may seem wholly tragic, but some day perhaps its pleasant memories, and they are many, will be pleasantly revived. Despite the vagaries of the weather, it was a good and exciting season, full of cricket played in a chivalrous spirit in which county elevens did not think overmuch about defeat but took risks for "victory or Westminster Abbey." It is a small but genuine satisfaction that, so far as the Championship is concerned, a definite result was reached and that there are, as to the first place, no "ifs and ans" left to argue about. Yorkshire had their weak moments, but alike in point of skill and stern fighting quality they were the right Champions. To our friends from the West Indies we have already said good-bye. Despite the fact that the weather was for the most part against them, they earned much glory, especially in the last match at the Oval. And now, when will another England team take the field in another Test match? Not in India this winter, we know already, but we may still dare to hope for Australia in the winter after. Till then we may still argue now and then as to whether we have found the right partner for Hutton and where are our bowlers to get out Bradman. A little judicious cricket talk may legitimately lighten our winter's darkness.

HATS AND PARCELS

STEEL-HELMET, tin-hat, battle-bowler—call it what you will, every wearer of the headdress of to-day has his or her own particular way of putting it on. Some affect the Beatty angle; some create an air of menace by drawing it low over the brow; others again push it negligently on to the back of the head or rakishly to one side, suggesting thereby that they are taking this war with sombre boredom or light-hearted enthusiasm. Some, when off duty, have found that it makes an excellent hold-all, carried by the chin-strap, and swing gaily home with the week-end provisions neatly arranged in its inverted crown. Some, indeed most, retain it in position by drawing the strap round the base of the skull; some, more martial, thrust their chins into the strap; some, of the ruminant type, mumble it between their lips in moments of abstraction. Few, among men, have learned to doff it in salutation with an air. And what of the gas-helmet? It has made us a nation of parcel-carriers, and statisticians have stood at street-corners counting the numbers of people per thousand going maskless and therefrom have made vast calculations showing to what extent we are discipline-minded, or absent-minded, or air-raid-minded, or whatever the quality they are in search of may be. But, carriers all, we must admit that the little square box is an awkward shape; and the most ingenuous of us, whether the selected alternative

port-mask be an old camera-case, the haversack we used in the last War, or granny's discarded knitting-bag, have yet to discover the ideal article, which must be elegant, waterproof, light, and unobtrusive. The matter is of some importance, for, after all, this shield against frightfulness has to be our constant, intimate companion "for the duration"—as we used to say a generation ago.

FIRE FROM THE AIR

TOO frequently of late the news has contained accounts of the burning of country houses that might, at least in part, have been saved if an adequate supply of water or chemical fire-fighting appliances had been available. The matter is of the greatest urgency to-day, since no building can be said definitely to be outside the war zone and the incendiary bomb is a menace to be expected and one therefore that all householders should be prepared against. We have been told again and again and with justice and reason that in war-time the citizen must take his proper share in his own protection. Among others, owners of country houses will do well, therefore, to keep and study the excellent official leaflet on fire precautions which explains concisely how to deal with incendiary bombs. Fires from incendiary bombs will usually start on top floors, and it is there that the fire-fighting gear should be put; but first all attics and roof spaces should be cleared of accumulated junk. Buckets of water and a powerful hand pump giving a jet or spray will be required for dealing with the fire, and there should be a bath or tank of water for replenishments. Two more buckets, half filled with sand, will also be required, and something with which to scoop up the bomb into one of them. It is emphasised that if water is thrown on a burning bomb there is danger of the bomb scattering burning fragments, but if the water is applied in a fine spray it will cause the bomb to burn away quickly and then it will be generally possible to get it under control. To prevent fire spreading and make approach to the bomb easier, water should first be directed on to and around the fire itself rather than on to the bomb, for by this means the spread of the fire will be checked and the bomb will be more easily tackled. Those are, in brief, the salient points; but the pamphlet should be got and studied and the fire-drill rehearsed.

THE LITTLE THINGS

The little things I might have done
And did not do, they haunt me yet;
With all my heart one wild regret
I walk beneath the lonely sun.

The little gift, the loving touch,
Who knows their worth? I gave them not . . .
The smile, the word so soon forgot,
That might have meant so much, so much. . . .

O never more the greater sins . . .
They are forgiven—I can forget . . .
It is the things—the little things
I did not do . . . they haunt me yet.

ETHEL ASHTON EDWARDS.

BACK TO THE BICYCLE

THIS last fortnight the bicycle has been coming into its own again; instead of the wavering nuisance and potential source of danger that it seemed when seen through a windscreens, it has become a positive ally. Cycle shops have been doing a roaring trade, while old grids—retired veterans these many years—have been dug out of obscure corners of outhouses and garages and pressed into service of local, if not national, importance. And the ride to and from the station or the country town has made many of us already take a new and less hurried interest in our surroundings. The slight gradient, hardly noticeable in the car, has suddenly become a very definite hill, entailing, if not a dishonourable dismount, at least a change into low gear and a good deal of puffing and panting. On steeper ascents there may be no alternative but to get off and push. In these leisurely progresses we find ourselves observing with a new minuteness of attention the wayside scene. And then with a blare of the hooter someone less provident flashes past us, and we mutter "Road hog," only to notice that we are a good two yards from the left-hand kerb.

THE FARMER'S BUSINESS

I.—THE PERFECT FARM.



"GOOD LAND MAKES GOOD FARMERS." TAKING IN THE HARVEST ON THE SOUTH DOWNS

WE publish below the first of a series of articles under the general title "The Farmer's Business" by a leading authority on agriculture who, having entered national service at the outbreak of war, prefers to use a pseudonym. Even in war-time the fundamental principles of good farming remain unchanged, although in matters of detail modifications in practice become inevitable. The substance of this article, therefore, remains as apposite as when it was written just before the war began. Subsequent articles, which will reflect the changed situation on the land as may be necessary, will appear at monthly intervals. The second, dealing with the organisation of farm labour, will be published in our issue of October 14th. Current agricultural topics will, of course, be dealt with more frequently.

SUCCESS in farming is hard to analyse. Why does one man succeed when others fail? Many answers could be given, and they might all be true in some degree. Certainly it is true that the farm itself has a good deal to do with a farmer's success or otherwise. There is a saying that "good land makes good farmers," and in fact there are pockets of good farmers on good land in areas which as a whole are not remarkable for a high standard of farming practice.

Fertile land that commands a high rent puts a man on his mettle, if for no other reason than that he cannot afford not to farm it well. Slovenly farming in the Evesham Vale of Worcestershire, the Pewsey Vale of Wiltshire, parts of the Lothians, or the fen land of South Lincolnshire rented at £5 an acre would be courting bankruptcy. The land demands a high standard of husbandry. Everyone else in the neighbourhood is farming intensively, and there is the sure knowledge that, the weather allowing, generous treatment of the land will be repaid in full crops. Thus a local tradition of good farming, which in the long run means successful farming, is established and maintained.

Looking for perfection in this world is never perhaps a profitable pastime. The perfect farm is as rare as the perfect husband. But we may each have our conception of the perfect farm. Three of us were discussing our ideas one evening at the Royal Show. The senior of the party was quite

clear in his mind that if he had his chance to start farming again he would pick a farm on really good land that gives a farmer something in which he can take a pride. He recounted how his father's heart had been broken in the 'eighties farming sticky clay that was stubborn to work and gave no scope for changing established methods in a difficult time. He himself had little capital for a start; but he made his way in a southern county, and since the War he had been milking eighty cows on a mixed farm. Too mixed, he said, with little enough good milking pasture and more than enough thin ground that needed a flock of folded sheep to maintain the land in reasonably good heart and a fit state to grow full crops of corn.

But a Down flock of sheep requiring an acreage of turnips for winter folding and considerable expenditure on labour has seemed a luxury in recent years, and he, like many other farmers, now relies on a milking herd and a flock of grass ewes to stock the farm and provide the animal manure that the soil must have. He admitted that he had not lost money over the last ten years, but he was sure he could have made money if he had been farming better land which would respond well to fertilisers and allow him to grow twelve to fourteen sacks of wheat to the acre instead of nine sacks, which is his average yield. The rent to be paid would be higher, but labour and overheads would be no more, and with heavier cuts of hay his feeding-stuff bill might be less. Moreover, better grass would give him more milk at less cost. He reckoned he would be in pocket on these counts as well as by being able to grow heavier crops of corn.

It is only human nature "to pine for what is not" and envy someone else the possession of a "good" farm. Really, the perfect farm only exists in the imagination for most of us. But even in this small island there is such a great variety of soil, rainfall and farming conditions that the seeker after his ideal should be able to find more or less what he wants. It may be, perhaps, a dairy farm in Sussex, with well-made pastures and a piped water supply to each field, a modern cowhouse, a good range of buildings to house young stock and to ensure domestic content, a convenient farmhouse that



THE MODERN WAY: HAYMAKING WITH A MECHANICAL STACKER



A CONTRAST IN COTTAGES. "IT IS WORTH WHILE TAKING TROUBLE TO SEE THAT KEY MEN ARE COMFORTABLY HOUSED." ON THE RIGHT IS A MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE SPECIMEN COTTAGE

does not involve undue drudgery for the farmer's wife. A wife can play a big part in a farmer's success, and it is well to make sure that the interests of the other partner have proper consideration in the choice of the farm. There is another point about the farmhouse. From my own experience I know that it is an expensive business adding on to a farmhouse to accommodate a growing family. It is more economical for a young couple to take a farm with a house that is too big for their immediate needs, rather than find later that they must build an addition and then have to pay an extra rent on that account.

As important as a convenient farmhouse, probably more important for the smooth running of the farm, are good cottages. Housing conditions in the villages are improving, thanks to re-housing under slum clearance orders and the reconditioning of old cottages with Government grants under the Rural Workers' Housing Act, but there are still a great many indifferent cottages in the villages and on farms. Poor housing has undoubtedly been one of the causes underlying the drift from the land, and the farmer who has no good cottages is bound to have trouble in keeping the men he needs, especially the younger men. Their wives will not tolerate damp, ill-lit rooms with no water supply and no electric light, when they see others enjoying the amenities of modern civilisation. There is no good reason why they should. It is certainly a great advantage if a farm has a sufficient number of good cottages to house the regular workers. To-day we run our farms with fewer men, and it is worth taking trouble to see that these key men are comfortably housed. To build new cottages is expensive, and few can afford to do it without a Government grant; and even the maintenance of existing cottages may seem uneconomic. In terms of rents received and repair bills it is, but on balance the farmer whose men and their families are well housed fully regains his expenditure in contented service.

It is an advantage to have a main supply of electricity. This boon penetrates the outlying districts slowly, and the supply companies still expect farmers to make extravagant payments for connection where the premises are distant from an existing transformer. Some find it more economical to make their own elec-

tricity with a Diesel engine, but undoubtedly it is a convenience to have electricity available for lighting and for such work as water-pumping, grinding corn and mixing rations.

Roads are also an important consideration to-day when so much of the farmer's raw material, such as feeding-stuffs and fertilisers, and so much of his produce, such as milk, fat cattle, lambs and pigs, are transported by motor lorry. The old farm road made up with flints and perhaps chalk was good enough for the farmer's gig and the horse wagons. Something better founded is required now to carry the milk lorry that collects the churns each morning and the oil company's tanker that delivers 500 gallons of paraffin for the tractor. Some farms are fortunately situated on a road maintained by the county council and have a public road running through the farm. The farmer may see rather more of the public than he likes, but he is saved the constant expense of maintaining a private road for his own use. This can be a heavy burden, and, as landowners are finding out, a new tenant often insists as a condition of tenancy that a hard road should be made to serve the farm and give proper access in winter as well as summer. If there is any doubt about the responsibility for road repairs it is always worth making quite sure whether or not a by-road is maintained by the county council, by asking the surveyor.

Proximity to a market town used to be a consideration that weighed heavily in the choice of a farm. It does not matter so much to-day. Motor transport covers ten miles almost as readily as four miles, and with so much motor traffic on the roads it is unusual for farmers to drive cattle or even sheep to market. They travel by lorry. So does the milk which is collected at the farm by the buyer's lorry instead of being carted to the railway station. Indeed, proximity value has almost disappeared in farming economics. Under the milk marketing scheme producers in the south-eastern region, close to London and the suburban consuming districts of Kent, Surrey and Hertfordshire, receive an extra 1d. a gallon in the Milk Board's pooling scheme, but the tendency is for transport costs to be averaged between near and distant producers. Is it better to rent or to buy a farm?



A MODERN COW-HOUSE. PERHAPS THE REALLY "PERFECT" FARM ONLY EXISTS IN THE IMAGINATION, BUT SUCH EXCELLENT EQUIPMENT AS THIS IS AN ACTUALITY TO-DAY

Put this question to a farmer and the probability is that he will advise renting—under a good landlord. Those farmers who bought their holdings after the last War can speak feelingly about the disadvantages of being one's own landlord. Unfortunately for them, they bought at the top of the market in 1919 and 1920, in many cases borrowing money at 5 per cent. and more to find the capital. They could not foresee that the Corn Production Act would so soon be scrapped and that prices for farm produce would fall so sharply in five years as to make the farms worth only two-thirds of the purchase price or less. Even when this lost capital has been written off, the owner-occupier may find that he pays dearly for the privilege of owning the land he farms. More often the farmer who buys his farm from necessity, not choice, leaves himself short of working capital. He can borrow from the bank, but as land ownership rarely gives a return as capital of more than 2 to 3 per cent. and the bank wants 4 to 5 per cent. interest on an overdraft, he is the loser all round.

There are landlords and landlords. Some of the worst have been weeded out by hard times in agriculture. In some cases they were not closely interested in the farms they owned, and if the estate could no longer pay a satisfactory dividend they preferred to sacrifice family associations and save such capital as remained to be realised. Agriculture has not lost much by their defection. But there were others who were genuinely concerned to take their proper part in the rural community, men who were born leaders and who rendered high service in a quiet sphere until their time came and death duties forced the sale of part or the whole of the estate. The good landlord does, however, still exist, and those who are farming under an understanding landlord, who counts them as friends and collaborators as well as rent-payers, are fortunate among farmers. Their responsibilities are limited to farming the land, without the worries and expenses attaching to the "magic of ownership." So my perfect farm would certainly be on an estate owned by a good landlord who appreciates a good tenant.

CINCINNATUS.

THE SUSPENSION OF RACING

BLOODSTOCK BREEDING MUST GO ON

WHEN, a quarter of a century ago, war was declared on August 4th, the Doncaster Yearling Sales took place a month later and the St. Leger was run for just as usual, on the Town Moor; this time Messrs. Tattersall's famous auction was abandoned in anticipation of the event; the cancellation of the race-meeting followed immediately upon this announcement. That both of these decisions were, in the present circumstances, advisable there can be no manner of doubt. That a continuation of this policy would have the same justification must most emphatically be denied, in as much as the cessation of this sport will mean the ruin of the bloodstock industry and of the thousands of people connected with it. Let me take some facts to illustrate this. Last year, 1,837 two year olds, 1,357 three year olds, 739 four year olds, and 1,210 horses of five years old and upwards, raced on the flat, in 1,985 events carrying prize-money of £731,826 10s. 6d. Of the two year olds, 761 had been sold as yearlings, for 354,603gs. at the Doncaster Sales of 1937, and a further 502—or some of them—came from among those who changed hands for a total of 69,800gs. at the Ballsbridge Sales; of the three year olds, 1,230 emanated from among those sold at one or other of these auctions, as yearlings, for 483,210gs. in 1936, while, though there were fewer four year old runners than there were yearlings sold in 1935, it must be noted that, in that year, 1,165 youngsters found new owners at a cost of 474,559gs. The total number—3,658—of yearlings sold in the three years mentioned, gives some idea of the extent of the industry; the 1,373,172gs. which was paid to the vendors suggests a taxable sum that would be of value when the time comes to pay for the present upheaval, while the £731,826 10s. 6d. in stake money disbursed in a single year is another not altogether negligible capital sum.

In addition to this a continuous stoppage of racing will affect the livelihoods, if in many cases it does not bring about the ruin, of the 370 trainers under Jockey Club and National Hunt Club Rules, whose names were given in the last issue of "Horses in Training"; of some 423 jockeys and apprentices who were

licensed to ride upon the flat; of some 300 steeplechase jockeys, and, counting two horses to a lad, the 3,000 stable lads employed to look after the 6,576 horses in training, and the head-lads, shoeing-smiths, travelling lads, horse-box drivers, secretaries and so on who are connected with stables.

That, though very condensed and figurative, gives some idea of the effect on the personnel of racing. There is still the breeding part of the industry to be considered: a part—some will call it the greater part—that will automatically cease to exist in the absence of any incentive to maintain it. In 1936, the last year for which General Stud Book figures are available, 7,529 mares of—at the average price made by mares last December—a total value of 2,684,853gs. were accounted for; in the current volume of Miss Prior's "Register of Thoroughbred Stallions," 853 sires are noted. The value of these is hard to estimate; some, in ordinary days, would make 40,000gs.; for others, Messrs. Tattersall would find it difficult to obtain a genuine offer of 400gs.; an average of 1,000gs. seems fair, making their total value 853,000gs. On the top of these there are the foals and the yearlings, on hand, which would bring the sum total value of bloodstock in Great Britain to somewhere in the neighbourhood of five and a half million guineas. These—the mares, the stallions, the foals and the yearlings—have to be looked after; the number of men required, over and above the 853 needed for the stallions, is problematical but enormous. Just as they need looking after, the mares, the stallions, the foals and the yearlings need housing accommodation, bedding and feeding. Think, or attempt to think, of what it all means; consider the false sentimentality or the idea of super-safety, that is put up as an excuse for ruining one of Britain's biggest industries by stopping racing, and so breeding.

Bloodstock enthusiasts are at the moment doing their best for the country in other parts of the world; the Government, we hope, will realise that they cannot, and must not, be allowed to return to find their business gone. British bloodstock must still rule the world; to ensure that racing, even if confined to Newmarket, must continue.

ROYSTON.



W. A. Rouch

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THE RACE FOR THE "NEW DERBY" AT NEWMARKET IN 1916

The late Sir Edward Hulton's Fifinella distinguished herself in this war year as one of the four fillies who had ever won both Derby and Oaks. Her races were on the Tuesday and Thursday of the same week

SAVE YOUR GARDEN



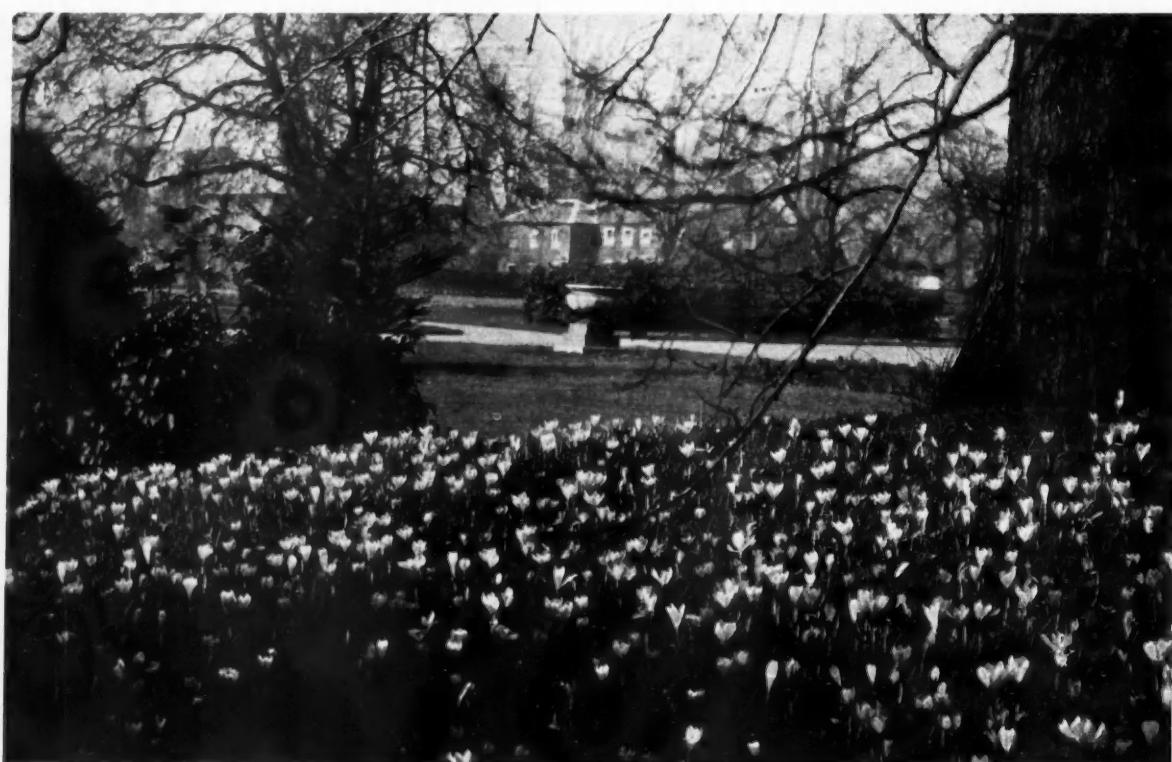
A CHARMING SPRING ASSOCIATION. BLUE GRAPE HYACINTHS AND JAPANESE CHERRIES

IN the nation-wide determination by every individual to do his or her bit to conserve and increase Britain's food supply, there is real danger that irreparable damage to gardens may be done without appreciably affecting the food situation. Indeed, more hardship and actual want may be created than is relieved by impetuous replacing of flowers by vegetables.

There is, too, the psychological aspect of the question "What shall we do in our gardens?" In these anxious days it is, naturally, impossible for most garden-lovers to maintain their happy preoccupation of interests. But they will neither be more efficient war-workers, nor able to suppress human nature, by denying themselves occasional relaxation of tension and activity.

Many must recall the conditions ruling at the beginning of the last War, when the cry of "Grow more food" rang through the land, and gardeners in response ploughed up their lawns, dug in their plants and put down every available rod of ground to vegetables. The injunction to waste nothing was taken too literally, and sense of fitness went by the board. If one valuable lesson was brought home to us by our procedure then, it was that it does not pay to neglect the claims of the higher emotions in order to serve more completely the grosser appetites. We learnt that the mind requires repose and relaxation as much as the body if it is to remain steady and efficient; and in what better way is this rest provided than by the tranquillity of the garden and its flowers and trees? There is a quiet serenity in the surroundings of a garden which both uplifts and stimulates and brings calm to minds troubled in these anxious days. If only for this reason, therefore, all gardeners will be wise to steer an even course between beauty and utility when budgeting for the garden needs in the future, and to allow the flower garden its just claims to recognition. A garden in these times is one of the greatest of comforts, and to banish all flowers and gardens is to destroy much of life's joys and graces.

There is another and hardly less



PATCHES OF SILVER AND GOLD

For spring colour, plant crocuses in out of the way corners, in the rock garden or under trees



Copyright

SANDRINGHAM IN SPRING. DAFFODIL DRIFTS IN THE GLADE

"Country Life"

important reason, if perhaps a more materialistic one, why garden-lovers should not allow their vision to become temporarily blurred in the stress of these days. The survival of the nursery trade, an industry vital to the welfare of the community, depends on the support of all gardeners, and it is essential to see that those engaged in the growing and production of ornamental plants are not faced with the tragedy of having to destroy the bulk of their stocks, as happened twenty-five years ago. It is hardly conceivable that garden-lovers will voluntarily withdraw their support and so retard the advances made in ornamental gardening in recent years. At the moment, immediate assistance can be rendered to the trade by maintaining the demand for bulbs, stocks of which are already

in the hands of all suppliers, and planting them for colour effects in the spring garden. There is no group of plants which yields a better return or provides a finer effect than the spring-flowering bulbs.

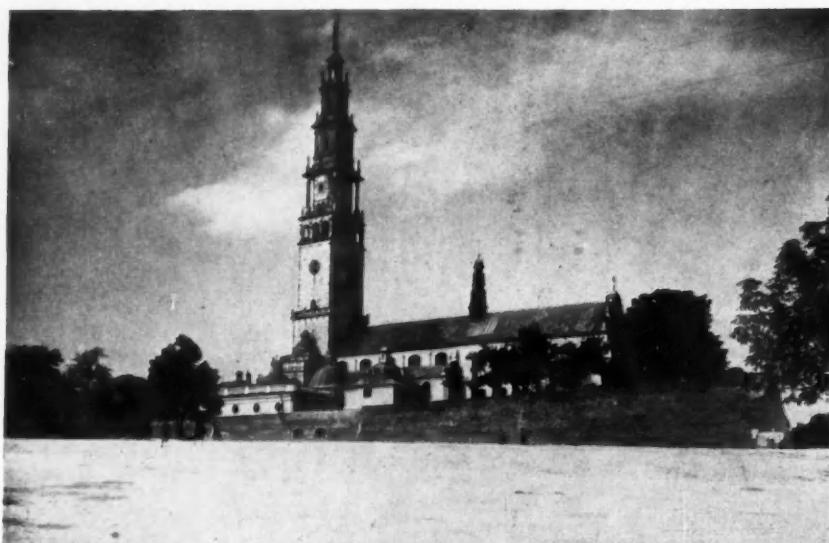
The accompanying illustrations show better than words the beauty they provide, and it is impossible to believe, even in these difficult days, that the thoughts of most gardeners can remain uninfluenced by the vision of a field of daffodils or a drift of crocuses, or indifferent to the claims of such an indispensable assemblage which, when they are in their full glory, will bring solace and pleasure in the months of the spring to come.

G. C. TAYLOR.



A FEBRUARY SCENE. SNOWDROP BEAUTY

OLD CITIES ON POLAND'S BATTLE FRONT



1.—THE BAROQUE PILGRIMAGE CHURCH OF CZESTOCHOWA



2.—POZNAN, THE THEATRE VIEWED FROM THE UNIVERSITY



3.—BYDGOSZCZ, THE MARKET SQUARE

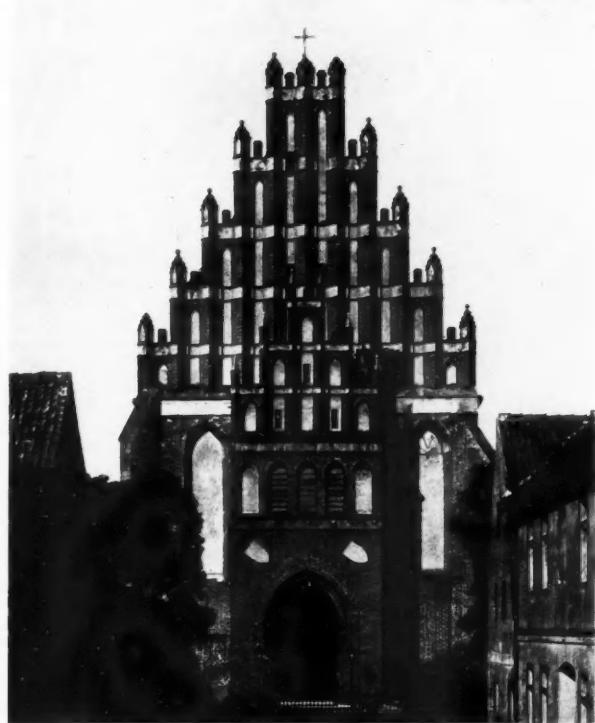
PARTS of the western provinces invaded or threatened by the German advance are the historic nucleus of the Polish nation, yet they have been subjected intermittently to the same threat to their independence and vital access to the Baltic since the dawn of the Polish State in the tenth century. The province of Posen, or Great Poland, is the parent State of the mediæval kingdom. The factors in the struggle have, broadly speaking, been much the same as to-day. Since the thirteenth century the Knights of the Teutonic Order exerted a military-missionary pressure from the north-east in the name of the Church, but in practice rather to fulfil the traditional German *Drang nach Osten* by means of a governing aristocracy. Along the Baltic coast and Vistula the increasingly powerful Hanseatic League of maritime cities, while encouraging the development of the hinterland, endeavoured to establish a grip on the means and routes of trade. Both these forces made great progress in the twelfth century, during the first period of Polish partition after the heroic epoch of Poland's foundation, when the kingdom was divided into eight princi-



4.—A STREET IN POZNAN

palities among the descendants of Boleslaus III. The capital was moved from Gniezno in Great Poland to Cracow, which became one of the richest cities in mediæval Europe, and where, in 1386, Jagiello, the pagan Duke of Lithuania who had married the heiress of the Polish Throne, adopted Christianity and was crowned as Wladislaus II, King of Poland. This transformation of the Lithuanian chieftain and the conversion of his people accomplished within a generation what the Teutonic Knights had failed to do in two centuries. The German Order was confined to Pomerania, where our Henry of Bolingbroke for a time took service with them; then, in 1410, the veteran Jagiello crushed the power of the Knights at Tannenberg and Danzig, Torun, and many Baltic cities submitted to the Polish King.

The old towns of the Vistula valley to this day display in their architecture innumerable traces of the struggle. The character of their old buildings is unmistakably Baltic in character; all are built of brick, and the churches in the peculiar and highly effective Gothic technique typical of Danzig and Lubeck; the castles of the Teutonic Knights and the city walls, as impressive as the



5.—CHELMNO, THE DOMINICAN CHURCH

fortress-cathedral of Albi, are among the outstanding brick structures of Europe.

One of the earliest centres of the Order is Chełmno (Kulm) on the Vistula in the "Corridor." The brick walls of the town, which became a full member of the Hansa, are almost intact, and within are a magnificent assembly of brick churches, those of the Franciscans and Dominicans (Fig. 5) being among the most impressive of their type.

Brydgoszcz (Bromberg), occupied by the Germans last week, was founded by Poland in the fourteenth century but destroyed by the Swedes in 1656. It is an attractive and prosperous place of wide streets and squares with a fine Renaissance church, but otherwise without much character (Fig. 3).

Its neighbour up-stream, Toruń, is the most historic and picturesque of the old Pomeranian cities. In 1230 the Teutonic Knights made it their headquarters, erecting a massive castle of which only fragments survive. It was destroyed when the town, having grown rich on the Polish wheat shipped down the Vistula, in 1450 rose against and ejected the Knights, and acknowledged Polish rule, which was not inconsistent with its membership of the Hansa. The town preserves much of its old walls, and several gates of which the Nuns' Gate (Fig. 8) is typical. The old streets contain several of the massive brick warehouses (Fig. 7)—crosses between dovecote and grain-elevator—built to accommodate Hanseatic merchandise. St. James's Church (1309-40), originally the Benedictine abbey (Fig. 6), is more delicately enriched than the majority of the brick churches, its buttress-shafts being elaborately pinnacled, though the double saddle-backed western



6.—TORUŃ, ST. JAMES'S CHURCH

tower has the characteristic surface treatment of panels like blind windows. St. John's Church, originally the Jesuits', is larger and equally handsome, though less fine in detail. Toruń was the birthplace of that notable Pole, Copernicus.

With its important Cathedral Treasury, Częstochowa occupies an unique position in the region. The fourteenth-century church, entirely re-built in the seventeenth-century baroque style, has the highest steeple in Poland (Fig. 1). The church is a famous place of pilgrimage on account of a miraculous ikon of the Virgin, and in recent weeks the baroque courts and cloisters of the Pauline convent should have been thronged with picturesquely clad peasants.

Poznań (Posen) is one of the oldest of Polish cities. The province of Great or Western Poland, of which it is the capital, was the territory occupied by the tribe which instituted the Polish monarchy, and it was in Posen that in 965, Mieczysław I was, converted to Christianity. Here he founded the first Polish bishopric, though Gniezno, originally the capital of Poland, is the seat of the primate. Having been destroyed by the Swedes, the city is essentially of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The classic grace of the University and theatre buildings (Fig. 2) contrasts agreeably with the grim Rhenish palace built by the Emperor William II in 1900. Poznań is one of the former homes of Polish Jewry, but thousands emigrated in the nineteenth century to America. Among the city's treasures are the paintings in the Musée de la Grande Pologne and the historic tombs in the baroque cathedral. The surrounding country consists largely in forest and lakes which must present great difficulties to an attacking army.



7.—A HANSEATIC GRANARY IN TORUŃ



8.—TORUŃ, THE NUNS' GATE

A COUNTRYMAN LOOKS AT THE WAR

OUR VILLAGE—EVACUATION—THE HARVEST—GYPSIES

By MAJOR C. S. JARVIS

SUNDAY, September 3rd, came as a most glorious, peaceful morning, and we have had all too few of them in this not particularly peaceful or happy year. It seemed to those of us who remembered it very like another autumn morning twenty-five years ago except that then it was a month earlier with the cornfields just beginning to show yellow round the edges and the sparrow flocks to start their toll by the hedge-rows. To-day much of the wheat and oats is cut and standing in cocks, and all last week there has been the rattle of the reaping machines in the fields, the drone of the thresher, and that other certain precursor of early autumn, the robin's song.

The sun broke through the morning mist while the people were filing along the pathway to the church door and rays of brilliant coloured light from the windows on the pulpit and lectern during the service seemed almost an augury of peace and brighter times ahead. As the congregation came out the news went round of the Prime Minister's broadcast, and we heard as we expected that we were at war again. This time, however, there was no shock or surprise; for two years now we have been realising that the German Government were creating a world unfit to live in, and there is a grim determination here in the countryside, as there is in the towns and cities, to put things right once and for all. The news was received with nothing more than a tightening of the lips and a squaring of the shoulders. As our road-man put it very aptly: "Hitler has been asking for a hiding for a long while, and now he's going to get it."

* * *

Evacuation had brought the war home to us two days before the actual declaration, for the first batches of school children with their teachers began to arrive on the Friday. They came by omnibus, by train, and by private cars, and, so far as our part of the world is concerned, it has gone very smoothly. It is, perhaps, more difficult for the British people to reconcile themselves to the end of that family privacy that is and has been always a characteristic of the race, but we have all got to realise that the Englishman's home is no longer his castle, but is public property to be used for the billeting of other people, whose ways may not be our ways and whose outlook on life is often different from our own. What has reconciled us to the situation more than anything is the realisation that evacuation is very much harder on those who have had to break up their homes in the cities and divide their families, than on those who have had only their privacy invaded. It is not all perfect yet, but we are shaking down quickly. Those who had expressed a preference for girls have got boys, and some have expectant mothers when they had been told to receive mothers complete with children; but the local Evacuation Officer, like the Prime Minister, is doing his best, and we have supreme confidence in his ability to put things right in the end.

* * *

In any case, the difficult problems of evacuation serve a good purpose in one way, as they keep otherwise idle people fully occupied with no time for brooding over the situation, which recalls the episode of one of our Hampshire privates during the attack on Beersheba in 1917. He was advancing with his company through shrapnel and rifle bullets across an open plain when two aeroplanes started to fight furiously overhead, swerving and swooping with the crackle of machine-gun fire. "I do like to see these yur aeroplanes," he said laconically; "it do take your mind off the war like."

For the children themselves it is a glorious and unexpected holiday, as many of the older people with that desire to "do their bit"—the catch-phrase of the last war—are doing everything to

make things as pleasant and happy as possible for their young guests. Many of the rising generation, therefore, may quite possibly look back on the first five days of the war as one of the happiest periods of their lives.

* * *

General mobilisation has not affected the farmer to any great extent yet, as the days when the Army recruited largely from the agricultural worker are over. This is due to the fact that the young man of to-day no longer looks to the land as a livelihood, and the majority of men employed on the farms are past the age limit. Work therefore is proceeding much as usual, which means that, agriculture being the precarious business it is these days, the farms are under-staffed and the farmer has to do the best he can with the small amount of labour he can afford to pay. If the weather is kind in the autumn he may save all his corn in good condition and get in his clover hay before the sun has lost its warmth, but it is always a race against time, and luck figures in it largely.

As the village schools, with their largely increased numbers and augmented staffs, are not functioning yet, the teachers and helpers have organised the older boys into small labour gangs to assist the farmers in the haymaking, which is very late this year, in corn-carrying, and in opening up the oat cocks to let in the sun and air. The average farmer is rather sceptical about boy labour, and the saying in these parts is: "One boy is a boy, two boys are half a boy and three boys are none at all." This we have discovered to be true, and the solution is dilution of labour—that anathema of Trades Unionism—and the distribution of boys to work under an adult. Farm work, unlike that in a factory, has no sameness about it, and there is a delightful variety every day to break the monotony, but the boys who aroused the envy of all the others were the two who went with the shepherd to round up the flock and search for fly-blown sheep. After the almost incredible joy of chasing and collaring lambs low, followed by the delight of picking out maggots and dressing the wounds with lotion, the humdrum work of sheaf-carrying seemed dull indeed.

* * *

Our local gypsies, though not active members of the A.R.P., have done their best in the circumstances. They have their headquarters in a waste piece of ground which they occupy during the winter months, and in the encampment is a newly purchased and very conspicuous white tent. As it is impossible for the

Romany race to declare its neutrality even if they wished to do so, they have painted a large red cross on the canvas which, if the Germans live up to their traditions of the last war, should serve as a target for any bombing raid! However, our particular gypsies come of fighting stock, and a very vivid recollection of the last war was of a particularly fierce gypsy corporal who was just as quick at plucking a German prisoner out of a trench in the dark as he was at lifting a hare out of its form.

* * *

So far the rumour-mongers have not blossomed forth in the village as they did some twenty odd years ago, and this is probably because the B.B.C. have curtailed their activities. There is not much *kudos* to be obtained from spreading a hair-raising report when the next announcement by wireless deflowers it into an almost everyday event shorn of all excitement and thrill. However, the milkman, having listened to the 8 a.m. broadcast, leaves the earliest news with the milk as in 1914, and this is either confirmed or discounted by the postman who follows him—the country changes its habits slowly!



"WE ARE SHAKING DOWN QUICKLY"

A LARDER AT OUR DOOR

IT is folly to attempt to farm to-day as our grandfathers did, and yet we know that they discovered certain things that we cannot afford to overlook if we are to get the best out of the land without impoverishing it. The monks from their different centres in this country probably did much to improve the yield of the countryside where their monasteries were situated, as the records will show. They were not satisfied with making the best of the land only, for they realised that inland waters were in their way equally valuable, and could be made to produce food crops as well as serve as the easiest way of carrying their goods. Around Glastonbury Abbey can be found the remains of fish ponds and canals made by them, and I believe they were also responsible for the first mill turned by water power that was erected a few miles from the Abbey, proving that in their day they realised the potential value of water. Fish we know played an important part in their weekly diet, and regular as well as liberal supplies had to be provided, for the monks were good trenchermen.

In places where the monasteries were built far from the sea the monks would be entirely dependent on supplies of fresh-water fish, mainly of their own rearing. Many of the old fish-ponds were small, comparatively, and yet they met a very real need.

Pisciculture, or the rearing of fish, has not been seriously undertaken in this country except for re-stocking sporting waters.

whether fresh-water fish are suitable for the table. Naturally they vary, like sea fish, but *provided the cook knows how to make the best of them*, there are very few that won't make an appetising dish to set before the family. Kings and rulers in times past have had them served at their banquets, and that surely speaks for itself. Some even are preferred to sea fish, and, anyhow, there are very many inland places where it is well nigh impossible to obtain really fresh sea fish.

Trout, of course, head the list as a favourite dish, but a really good perch, or a fry of nicely browned dace served up with egg and breadcrumbs, runs it close. For a larger party a well made-up winter pike of 6lb. or 8lb., stuffed with chicken stuffing and roasted whole in its skin, being well basted with rashers of bacon, will take a lot of beating. Eels fried to a nice crisp brown or stewed in milk are the best of food for convalescents and are recommended by medical men. Carp figured largely on the tables of the monks. Gudgeon are so tasty that many anglers wish they grew ten times as large. These are but a few of the species that our inland waters provide, and there are others equally well known and as easy to grow that are even more prolific when given a fair chance.

As to the demand commercially, this at present remains an unknown factor, but some indication can be obtained from the knowledge that there is said to be a good demand in places where



THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF PONDS SUITABLE FOR PROVIDING GOOD SUPPLIES OF FISH

On the Continent, however, they, like the monks of old, have realised the value of even small ponds and lakes for producing food supplies, and are making good use of these valuable assets. No less an authority than the late J. J. Armistead used to say that more food could be produced from an acre of water than an acre of land!

There are thousands of ponds and streams scattered up and down this land of ours that are suitable for producing a good supply of fish, yet the best use is not being made of them.

Unfortunately, too many streams, rivers and ponds have been allowed to become polluted and used as sewers, killing not only fish but also plants and fish food, besides becoming a danger to health. This is nothing less than a public scandal, and those responsible ought to be forced to restore, as far as possible, these valuable public assets to their original condition.

Of course, it must be borne in mind that there is just as much difference in the character of different waters as there is in different soils. All land is not suitable for wheat, neither will all waters be found suitable for the cultivation of trout. As we choose our crops for the soil we have available, and do what we can to improve it, so we must select the species of fish most suitable for the waters we have in view, and, by suitable methods known to the fish-culturist, strive to improve their holding and producing capacity.

If we are able to increase food supplies our water will naturally be able to maintain and carry a heavier head of fish than if we simply leave Nature to do her best without our help.

There are certain fundamental questions that need to be answered in connection with this subject that will at once occur to the interested reader. The first of these is probably as to

the Jewish element predominates, and that the many thousands of anglers in this country seldom have any difficulty in disposing of any surplus catches they may have to their friends and neighbours. Apart from trout, it is doubtful if any other species of fresh-water fish is cultivated *for the market* in this country yet.

The question of the cost of rearing: This will vary with the species selected for cultivation, and also depend on the water available. Trout, of course, will make the heaviest demand on capital, but, on the other hand, they should easily provide the highest returns. Expert knowledge would be essential in their case to secure success. In all ventures of this kind expert advice would be desirable, so as to know what species would suit the water best, and the most suitable means of keeping control over your water and stock of fish, as well as making the best of your water. Common sense and real interest in the work after this should provide their reward just as surely as they do for the nurseryman or farmer who works his land. Naturally, there are dangers to be avoided if possible, but an expert will point these out, and to be forewarned is to be forearmed.

Rate of growth will depend on the species selected, and the available food supply in the water. Some fish increase at an enormous rate, and if not thinned out would speedily overtake the food supply and remain dwarfed and useless for market purposes.

Enough has been said to show that there are yet open to the landowner means by which he can add appreciably to the value of his holdings by making use of his water supplies more fully. Food reserves are a good insurance even in these days, and we might do worse than copy our old friends the monks in this respect, and make our ponds help to supply the nation's larder.

ERNEST A. LITTON.



HAMSTONE HOUSE, ST. GEORGE'S HILL, SURREY

THE HOME OF MR. PETER LIND

A modern house that yet develops the Georgian tradition; designed by Mr. Ian Forbes, for one of the principals of the contractors for Waterloo Bridge.

WHATEVER the future of country houses and domestic architecture, the war has come at a juncture when the experimental phase of the "new architecture" has seemed to have come to an end and certain broad principles been established. During the past twenty years of experiment in the uses of concrete, steel, and the other substitutes for traditional materials, it was natural that the new possibilities in design which they opened up should be explored with more enthusiasm than judgment, and applied indiscriminately to

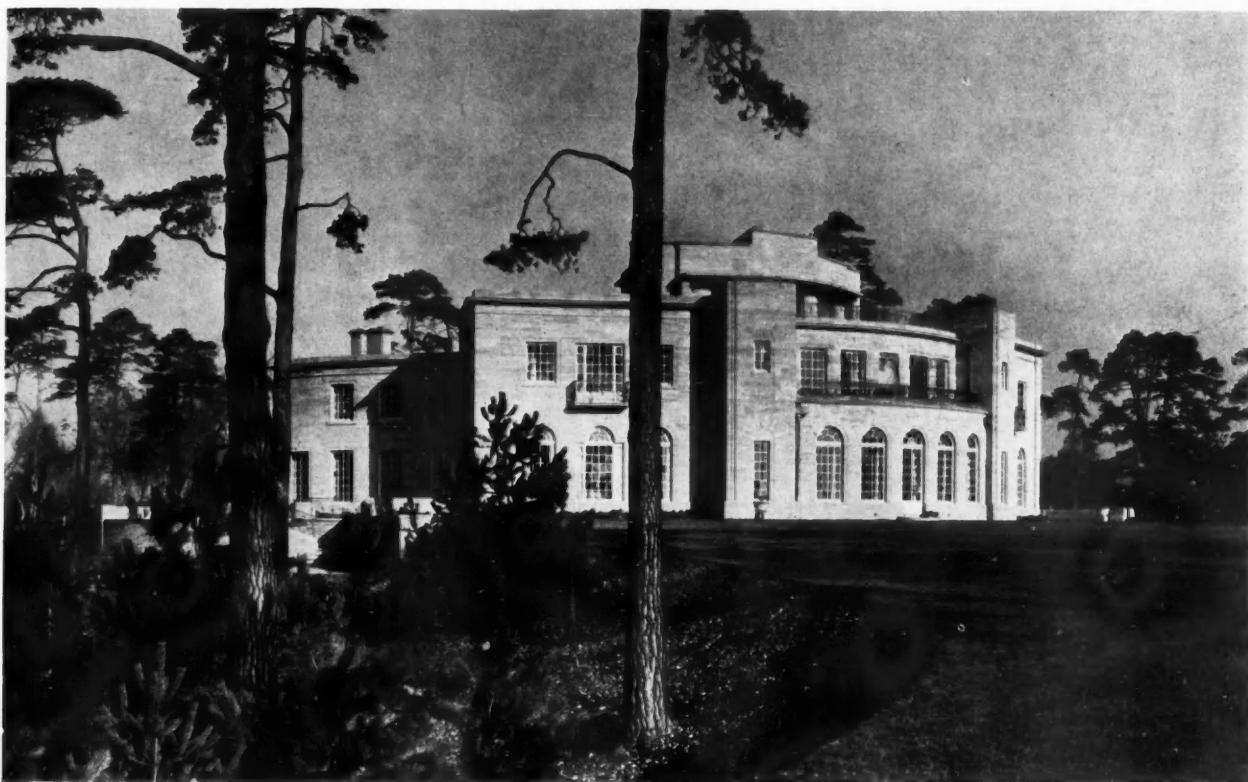
every kind of purpose. It is obvious now that, in spite of ten years' intensive propaganda, the "modern house," in its crude form, did not catch on with the average Englishman as his permanent home. It may be, as Mr. Gloag suggests in his contribution to "The Book of the Modern House," because "we suffer from having acquired our leadership from Europe. This has given to the work of many of our young architects an alien logic, and a disregard for national foibles, that together provoke the dislike and the opposition of the normal Englishman, who in disgust often



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1 and 2.—THE ENTRY FRONT

"Country Life"



3.—THE CURVING SOUTH FRONT

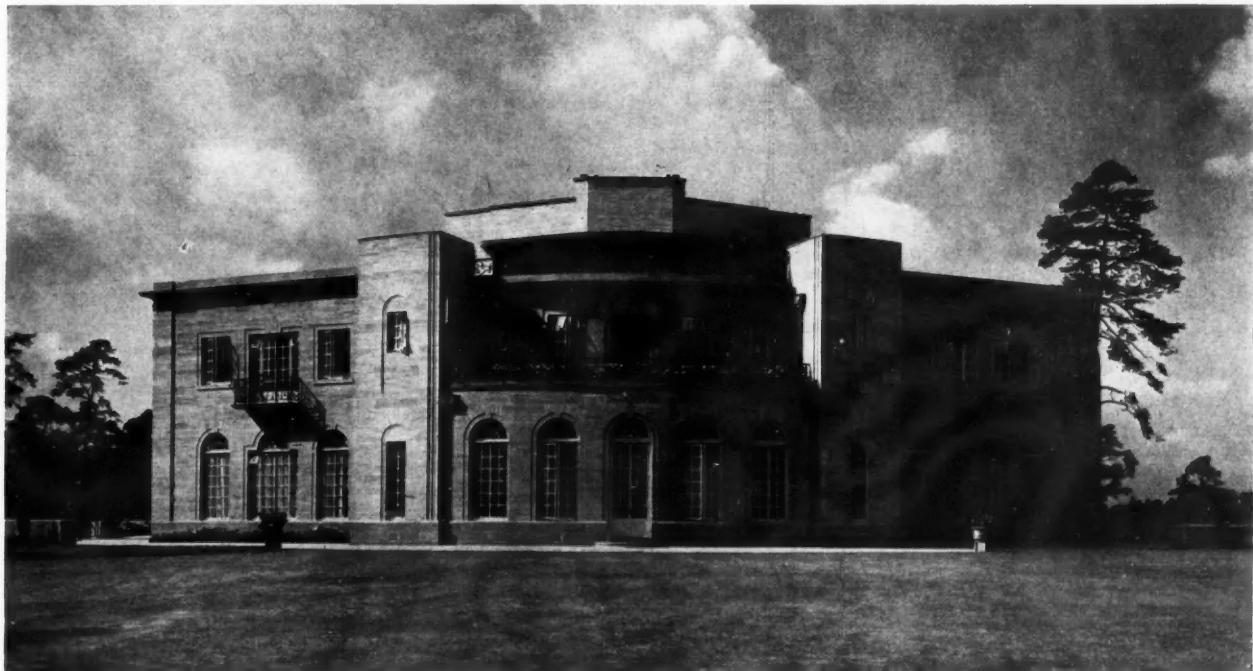
patronises spurious antique forms. The English modernist is, by his implacable extremism, often indirectly responsible for the 'off-Tudor' absurdities that disfigure his country." Even when unappreciativeness of the good behind "modernism" does not go so far as that, people remark not unreasonably that they "don't want to live in a factory," "do want to feel indoors when they are indoors," "want some privacy," and, express their sense of disquiet as they may, end by building something "homely" in the Queen Anne style.

On the other hand, genuine admiration is given to many new hospitals, schools, factories, and impersonal buildings that are realistically designed. And many of the structural and stylistic implications of the "concrete revolution" have been digested into the body of contemporary domestic taste. The elasticity of plan enabled by a flat roof, the elimination of meaningless decoration, the provision of sleeping porches, and an elaborate simplification of services, are welcomed into their homes by an increasing number of people, because

they represent practical or economic requirements of the age.

But there is among Englishmen, to an extent which is sometimes not realised by enthusiastic young architects, a deep if not always articulate feeling that their "home" is their holding in England, with all that that implies of vague associations with the countryside, and of traditions and customs that are far from dead. It has been unreasonable for architects to fly in the face of these convictions which are reinforced by the climate, the geology, and even the vegetation of this country. For it is these elements that are the fundamentals of architecture. It is salutary to try out innovations of planning and construction; profound social, scientific, and economic changes have taken place which must inevitably modify the way we live and therefore the way we build; but the results of such experiment, however logical, are means by which the elements of English architecture can be interpreted afresh, not ends in themselves.

The realisation of these principles has resulted in a distinction between domestic and non-domestic architecture





5.—LAMPS TERMINATING THE FORECOURT WALLS



6.—THE LODGE AND GARAGE.

7.—THE DESCENT TO THE GARDEN

8.—THE TEXTURE OF HAM STONE IS WELL DISPLAYED

While the latter can be purely utilitarian, the former, while embodying many of the results of realistic experiment, is generally required to conform broadly to the tradition of the English home.

This house at St. George's Hill well illustrates an aspect of what has been said. It is obviously a modern house in its freedom from stylistic restraint and reliance for effect on the relationship of masses and on a "stream-line" quality appropriate to its concrete structure. Yet it definitely links up with the tradition of Georgian building through the fine ashlar masonry, the proportions and arrangement of the fenestration, the symmetry of the plan, and the retention of a cornice and other surface mouldings. The effect of these is to impart grammar, indeed, a considerable grace and music, to what otherwise would have been a striking but stark assertion. There is no point, however, in seeking to dissect the modern from the traditional elements: they were fused in the architect's original approach to the problem and the result is a genuine development.

Hamstone House takes its name from the golden Ham Hill stone from Somerset with which it is faced. Unfaced concrete is rarely satisfactory for houses owing to its poor weathering qualities. But its use enables a much richer facing to be used than would be the case were the surface material used throughout. Too often this has encouraged irrelevant ornament that stultifies the underlying facts of the construction. Here the Ham stone facing has been used frankly as a surface, suggesting nowhere (except in the foundations and garden walls, which are of solid block construction) that it is subject to the stresses of structure. The mouldings that soften the angles and windows are shallow, but the grain of the stone has been used so as to enhance their effect—as in the voussoirs of the arches on the south front.

In general disposition the house is a segment of a circle, a form suggested by the site which is a spur falling steeply southwards to St. George's Hill golf course. The curving motive has been developed, on the approach side, into a complete circle by means of the single storey flanking wings and the forecourt walls (Fig. 1). These end in lamp standards formed of Ham stone monoliths of an original design (Fig. 5). The approach to the house is by a drive entered through a lodge reminiscent of a mediæval gatehouse (Fig. 6); it houses the chauffeur and has the garages and yard concealed by a blind wall at the side.

In the concave front itself an impressive composition has been built up with simple elements: the three centre bays break forward, the central one being convex and containing a large window, above the hooded entry door, lighting the staircase hall. The sides, radiating from the centre of the circle in the



forecourt, are both visible at once and contribute much to the light and shade of the composition. An attic storey is set back, and contains a "solarium" above which the chimney flues are grouped into a low triangular stack, its apex coming above the centre of this front. A chimney-stack also terminates each wing (Fig. 2). In these wings the stressing of the cornice more emphatically than in the central block, and the grouping of the windows towards their inner ends, produces an appropriate feeling of sweep, of reaching forward. This works in with the greater height and weight of the central block to produce a real effect of culminating movement, offset by the convex curve in the middle. One is reminded of some of Vanbrugh's compositions by this baroque quality of movement produced by spacing and mass. Yet there is nothing derivative about Mr. Ian Forbes' design beyond his evidently having digested elements of baroque classicism before launching into this highly original modern work.

The south front (Fig. 4) was a more difficult elevation to design satisfactorily. All the principal living and bedrooms look this way, without any dominating space, such as the hall on the other side, to assist accentuation. There was, further, the problem of fitting sleeping porches into a symmetrical front. The circular plan is departed from to the extent of the whole façade of the house

proper breaking forward, the lateral divisions being actually

flat-fronted, though at right angles to the radius of the circle.

It is perhaps this introduction of flat lines at the sides, and at the

top in the silhouette of the solarium, combined with the setting back of the centre at first-floor level (where, however, the curve is maintained), that produces a slightly indeterminate result, emphasised by each section having about the same proportion of window to wall space. The height of the arched ground floor windows is increased in the central section, but this, with the sculptured niche and the chimney block above, is not quite enough to overcome the "unresolved duality" set up by the two tower-like features dividing the centre from the lateral sections. Consequently the elevation is more effective when seen at an angle (Figs. 3 and 8). In the close-up view the admirable use made of the stone's grain for giving variety of texture is clearly seen. At the extremities of the semicircle, too, advantage is taken of the sharp fall of the ground to introduce terraces, and flights of steps with vigorous wrought-ironwork, which produce striking compositions with the varied planes of the building. At the west extremity is a loggia with plain cylindrical columns.

The garden adjoining the house is kept to lawn, with mass plantings of heaths on the steep slopes under old Scots firs. On the lower level, to the east, however, is a large herbaceous garden laid out on broad lines.

The plan and internal treatment are as interesting as the outside of the house and maintain the note of a contemporary rendering of spacious Georgian tradition. The entry hall, lit by the single large window over the front door, is given a circular effect by the staircase of Botticino marble and first-floor landing (Fig. 10). The rich ironwork, forged by Messrs. Adrian Stokes, is the only decoration against the plain cream walls apart from a moulded ceiling. From the hall, corridors lead to the office wing (left) and to a large cloakroom, the flower room, and the boudoir. Opposite the entrance two doors give into the drawing-room (Fig. 9) that occupies the



9.—THE DRAWING-ROOM IN THE CENTRE OF THE SOUTH FRONT
The walls are of the same warm grey as the Waterloo Bridge elm used for the floorboards



Copyright

10.—THE MAIN STAIRCASE AND ENTRY HALL

"Country Life"

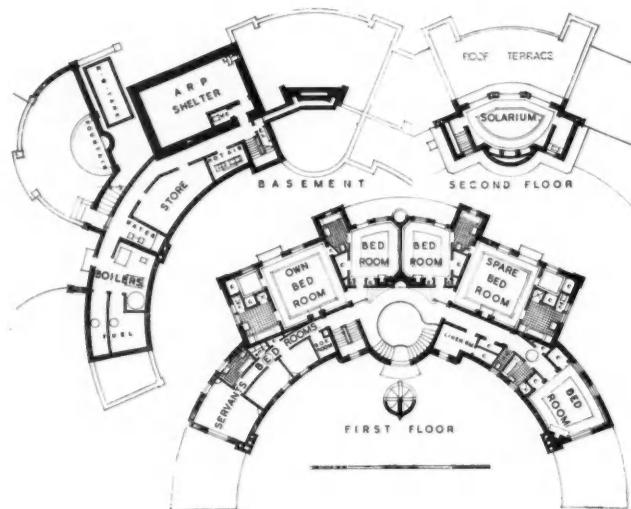
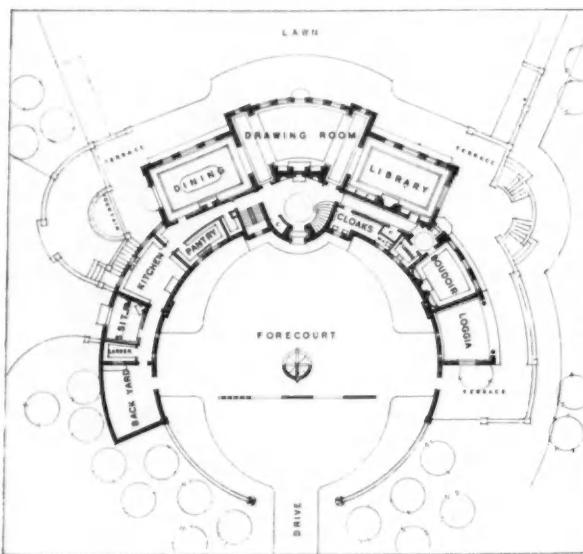


11.—THE SUN-ROOM OPENING ON TO THE ROOF TERRACE

ing-room—both of them abundantly lit bright rooms fitted up and planned with the latest labour-saving devices. Another and no less valuable feature is an attractive servants' sitting-room. The back stairs, which unfortunately cannot be adequately photographed, are a delightful example of oak joinery reminiscent of simple Jacobean work, executed by Messrs. Ewing and Davies of Byfleet. They lead downwards to the most modern feature of the house, a gas-proof A.R.P. shelter capable of holding fifty people, ventilated with shafts for hand-worked filters, and strong enough for the house to fall on it.

The most attractive of the upstairs rooms is the eyrie giving on to the roof terrace, called "solarium" on the plan, but used by Mr. and Mrs. Lind's children (Fig. 11). The owner, who is the head of Messrs. Peter Lind and Co., was himself the general contractor. The architect, Mr. Ian Forbes, is the son of Mr. J. Edwin Forbes of the firm of Forbes and Tait whose work at Barrington Court, Somerset, was illustrated some years ago.

CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY.



centre of the south front including the "towers." Its unusual shape might be compared to an open fan, the sticks of which are represented by the strips of radiating floorboards, while the compartments so formed are laid to emphasise the curve. The whole floor is made of elm from the piers of old Waterloo Bridge, supplied by Messrs. W. W. Howard. Its delightful warm grey colour is reproduced in the graining of the "panelled" walls. A feature of the rooms is the handsome marble chimney-pieces supplied from the architect's designs by Messrs. Jenkins: in this room of Algerian onyx. At either end the drawing-room has sliding doors giving into library and dining-room, so that the whole suite can be thrown into a single space. The library (Fig. 12) has inset bookcases and lining of French walnut, the plane surfaces veneered with quarters, the doors and overmantel space fluted. The chimney-piece is of the unusual warm grey Napoleon marble. The whole treatment is an interesting development of Regency tradition.

Pantry and kitchen adjoin the din-



12.—THE WALNUT-LINED LIBRARY

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

GREAT ARTIST AND GREAT POLE—BY BERNARD DARWIN

HERE could be no more appropriate time for the appearance of an autobiography of one who is not only a great artist but a great Pole. M. Paderewski says, in "The Paderewski Memoirs," by Ignace Jan Paderewski and Mary Lawton (Collins, 21s.), that even when he was a tiny boy of five he hoped "to become somebody and so to help Poland." There was, of course, music too, but "patriotism and music marched hand in hand," and when he and his sister played at soldiers and the boy rode a charger made of a piece of stick and a stuffed bag he was for ever cutting down Poland's enemies. In this the first instalment of his memories we are told little of his political interests, since the volume ends with the outbreak of war in 1914. Here he talks of his childhood, his early musical struggles and their victorious outcome. The word "talk" is used because M. Paderewski protested vehemently that he was a pianist and not a writer, and it was only at length that Miss Lawton persuaded him to talk so that she might write and "make it sound like him." So far as one may judge, she has made it sound wonderfully like him, she has kept the writer in the background and has produced with great skill the illusion of talk, spontaneous talk which jumps now and then forward or backward, which possesses a most characteristic flavour and a noble simplicity and modesty.

Perhaps no successful man is ever quite so interesting as before he has attained success. In such books as this it is often the springtime that is best. The records of triumphant tours grow a little monotonous, even though cleverly interspersed with amusing stories of famous personages, such as that of Mr. Carnegie entertaining his distinguished guest at Skibo by bagpipes before breakfast and an organ recital after luncheon. Yet the prosperous years lack a little of the entrancing freshness of the earlier ones which one reader, admittedly unlearned in music, has almost passionately enjoyed. This should be added: it is not necessary to be musical in order to be filled with admiration for one particular quality of the man, the intense and superb conscientiousness of the true artist. His power of work is something beyond our lazy and commonplace understanding. The incredible number of hours devoted to practice, the "constant torture and privation" involved, the toiling before a looking-glass to conquer the habit of making "grimaces, the fight to keep faith with the public despite agonising pain in arm and finger, the further fight to overcome the positive hatred of the piano which came pouring over him like a wave"—these things are a revelation and a lesson.

When the boy in the little Polish village was three he played the piano. When he was four he was writing letters to his father (then in prison as a revolutionary) about his cousin Florian's beautiful green boots, as to which he felt no envy but only admiration. When he was ten he was reading aloud to three old gentlemen the newspapers as to the Franco-Prussian War, and, since they were supporters of France, he tried to please them by inventing, as he went along, terrific defeats of the Germans. It was about the same time that he was awakened on a sleigh drive by "several small lights, sharp, glowing little lights shining in the night." They were the eyes of wolves, and were only driven off by the making of a great fire, made from heaps of straw fortunately found by the roadside. Two years later, when he was twelve, the boy went as a pupil to the Conservatory at Warsaw, from which, incidentally, he was twice expelled for rebelling against unfair discipline. Some of his teachers thought he might be a composer, one thought his only hope of a living lay in the trombone; no one thought much of him as a pianist. Yet when he was fifteen he made one of a concert party of two who wandered about the country, borrowing some sort of piano wherever they could and getting good-natured soldiers to carry it for them to some sort of hall. They nearly starved, they nearly froze, and here, to end with, is one little picture from that time: "One bitter morning as we went on our way we saw several soldiers working beside the road. We hailed them as we approached, but they made no response. We hailed them again as we drew nearer but they never moved at all. They were standing very still, so still that they frightened us, and then we saw that they were all dead—frozen to death . . . Just standing there frozen to the earth!"

Catalan France, by Basil Collier. (Dent, 18s.)

MR. BASIL COLLIER, in his earlier book "To Meet the Spring," had ventured into the province of Rousillon, which, in more senses than one, is the next thing to Spain. In this one he gives a fuller survey of this delightful border country, "a Switzerland with better scenery and without the Swiss: could anything be more attractive?" The Rousillon, a Catalan *enclave* in France, is set apart from its neighbours by its history, customs, music and pleasures. It is a peasant province, lacking in well built cities and towns. Its Romanesque churches and monasteries are primitive, its sculpture (such as the *dévote* crucifix at Perpignan) characteristically Spanish in its harsh realism. But it is a paradise for the botanist, and its ardent Mediterranean sun appeals to the traveller. The amateur of folklore will be interested in the Bear Dance of Arles-sur-Tech, in which Mr. Collier (who watched the odd rites in February) sees "unmistakeably" the dying god of "The Golden Bough." Part of the book is an historical survey of its romantic history as a province of Aragon and a possession of the Kings of Majorca, until the Treaty of the Pyrenees in 1659 gave the Rousillon and half

the Cerdagne to France; part is guide (and gazetteer), distinguished by a vivid sympathy with the Catalan landscape and way of life. The book is the more welcome, since the province is *terra incognita*; and for every thousand Englishmen who have visited Provence, perhaps three have visited the Rousillon. Even the names of its sweet wines, such as the Muscat and Malvoisie that intoxicated Renaissance heads, are unknown to-day. The advice about hotels and restaurants is concise and thorough; and the author mentions one restaurant with the attractive name of "The Singing Lobster"—the "Langouste Qui Chante."

Ten Years Under the Earth, by Norbert Casteret. (Dent, 12s. 6d.) THERE are no more "caverns measureless to man." Intrepid explorers can now swim down even the pitch-dark channels of Alph, the sacred river, and launch their canoes on the "sunless sea." And what a story the adventures of such an explorer make. Anyone who ever loved Jules Verne will revel in M. Casteret's breath-taking account of his adventures in the bowels of the earth. His accounts of his dizzy climbs down subterranean waterfalls, his dives through water-filled tunnels, his wanderings among crystal flowers in cathedral-high caverns, read like the romantic scenes and events of fairy-stories. But M. Casteret is a serious speleologist, or cave-scientist, and has made many valuable discoveries, including the true source of the Garonne, the deepest abyss in France, and the oldest statues in the world, the clay bears and lions of the Grotte de Montespan. The finding of the source of the Garonne makes a thrilling story; M. Casteret and his wife threw quantities of fluorescein, a colouring agent which turns water brilliant green, into the great abyss called the Trou de Toro, and were able to watch the emerald flood pouring out of the Goueil de Jouéon to spread into the Garonne and prove M. Casteret's deduction that the Trou and the Goueil were connected underground. This unusual book is a mine of information about prehistoric man and his art, about the natural history and hydrology of caves, as well as of thrilling stories about how to penetrate them. Either M. Casteret is not well served by his translator, or he is less handy with a pen than with a rope or a lantern; here is a certain flatness and *naïveté* about the style which just takes the finest edge off the excitement of his exploits. And the photographs which illustrate the book are rather disappointing; but presumably the black abysses of the earth are not particularly photogenic.

J. F. C.

Poems: Gorgia Lorca. Translated by Stephen Spender and J. L. Gili. (The Dolphin, 7s. 6d.)

GARCIA LORCA was a young Spanish poet murdered (as a "dangerous agitator") in the early days of the Spanish war. The translation of his poems into English is a gallant attempt by Mr. Stephen Spender and Mr. J. L. Gili both to defend the poet against any charge of being a propagandist, and to spread the fame of a man whose loss to modern Spanish letters is evidently very great. Lorca's imagery is so vivid and abundant that the light of poetry pierces even the mists of translation. His "Ode to Walt Whitman," for instance, is electric with such imagery:

" . . . beautiful aged Walt Whitman"
Your shoulders of corduroy worn out by the moon
So is his "Monologue of the Moon":

"I am the round swan in the river,
eye of the cathedrals,
dissembled dawn on the leaves"

The frontispiece, a portrait of the poet, might stand as an ideal presentation of youth, strength, beauty and vision.

V. H. F.

Learn to Love First, by Amabel Williams-Ellis. (Gollancz, 7s. 6d.)

"EXCITEMENT" is the word on the dust-cover of Mrs. Williams-Ellis's "Learn to Love First," and excitement it is: excellent, up-to-date excitement. Taking a mythical Totalitarian State as her scene, the author tells a tale that is having its counterpart in many a place to-day. But this is not a novel full of horrors; the author's aim is to expose spiritual rottenness rather than the physical symptoms of it. Above all, she shows, by means of a plot unflaggingly tense, how underground movements work, in any country where freedom of speech is denied: the impossibility of using post or telephone, the tiny gatherings of men and women in inconspicuous, frequently changed spots, the painfully arranged contacts with other such groups, the dangers, betrayals, failures, agonising nerve-strain. It is exceptionally well done; anyone who reads as far as the second chapter will have to read the other eighteen.

V. H. F.

Uncle Fred in Springtime, by P. G. Wodehouse. (Jenkins, 7s. 6d.)

A NEW book from Dr. Wodehouse, and moreover a new book full of our old friends, is indeed something to be thankful for in anxious days. The story actually begins at the Drones' Club, with Pongo Twistleton dashing out "to try to touch Horace Pendlebury-Davenport for two hundred pounds," but it takes us to Blandings Castle, and there we meet Lord Emsworth, his sister Lady Constance and his pig Empress, the Duke of Dunstable and his hateful secretary, and many, many more. There are plots to steal the Empress, plots to raise funds, plots to persuade heads of families to smile upon their descendants' intentions as to marriage, and through it all, debonair, resourceful, glib of tongue and whimsical of idea, Uncle Fred, fifth Earl of Ickenham, known and loved by all Wodehouse fans, threads his delightful way, scheming like Machiavelli, lying like a trooper, and yet a triumphantly attractive person. The scenes in which he is passing himself off as the brain-specialist, Sir Roderick Glossop, are among Dr. Wodehouse's high peaks.

B. E. SPENDER.

A SELECTION FOR THE LIBRARY LIST.

COUNTRY CONTENTMENTS, by Margaret Westerling (Constable, 8s. 6d.); **MARGINAL COMMENT**, by Harold Nicholson (Constable, 5s.); **THE ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE**, by L. Charles Douthwaite (Blackie, 10s. 6d.); **DEEDS THAT HELD THE EMPIRE**, by Major E. W. Sheppard (Murray, 7s. 6d.); **Fiction: THE CONFIDENTIAL AGENT**, by Graham Greene (Heinemann, 7s. 6d.); **UNCLE FRED IN SPRINGTIME**, by P. G. Wodehouse (Jenkins, 7s. 6d.).



"FEET AND BILL LIKE A DUCK'S,
FUR LIKE A MOLE'S, FANGS LIKE
A REPTILE'S LIVES BOTH
IN WATER AND ON LAND"

BIRD—
FISH—

MAMMAL—
REPTILE?

THE PROBLEM OF THE
PLATYPUS

THE duck-billed platypus has always ranked as one of the paradoxes of the animal world. When it was first reported from Australia some hundred and fifty years ago the scientists, many of whom had recently been bamboozled by "mermaids" from China, dismissed it as a new hoax. The arrival of specimens, however, convinced them, and since then the platypus, which has feet and bill like a duck's, fur like a mole's, and fangs like a reptile's, which lives both in water and on land, and which lays eggs and yet suckles its young, has had the constant attention of science.

The platypus is still to be found in Tasmania and on the east coast of the Australian mainland. Some of its haunts are not very far from my own home in Gippsland. Its general appearance suggests a large lizard that has decided to grow fur. It is about two feet long and weighs about four pounds, but a very loose skin and long fur make it look much bigger. The fur is reddish brown in colour, shading off to a silvery grey underneath the body. The head and body, united by an ill-defined neck, are very flat, and so is the beaver-like tail. The small eyes, placed high, give the greatest possible range of vision. The bill does somewhat resemble that of a duck, but it is more pliable, and is, in fact, rather like soft rubber.

The limbs are pronouncedly reptilian, except that the fore paws have unique webs for swimming. When the beast is running or burrowing it can fold these webs away. Extraordinarily loose joints also allow it to comb almost any part of its fur with its hind claws. The platypus is as fussy as a cat about its toilet, and any spots these claws cannot reach it preens with its bill in much the same way as a bird preens its feathers.

On the inner side of the feet of the male platypus there is a strong movable spur. The purpose of this was first revealed in 1816 when



Sir John Jamieson reported an alarming experience to the Linnean Society. His overseer was attempting to remove a wounded platypus from the water when the animal dug its spurs into his hand. Acute poisoning set in immediately, and the man very nearly lost his life. What he discovered so painfully was that the male platypus is venomous like many of the reptiles.

The platypus looks its best in the water. But one must make no sound or movement when it is at the surface. It comes up very cautiously, head first. If there are no suspicious sights or sounds the body is allowed to float slowly to a spread-eagled position. After a few moments' rest or play it throws its head beneath its body and dives again, swimming almost frenziedly until it reaches the bottom and begins its search for food. It swims with its fore paws, their webs widely expanded, while the hind feet keep its equilibrium, and the tail, moved leisurely and gracefully, serves as a rudder. But although a good diver, the platypus cannot stay very long under water (the maximum period recorded is ten minutes) and must soon come up to breathe. If caught in a fish trap it is always found drowned. In its breathing equipment, as in its whole organisation, the platypus is extremely delicate. Early collectors had only to discharge a gun beneath it and the concussion alone was fatal.

The platypus makes two types of burrow—one for everyday use and one for nesting. The resting burrow, the all-the-year-round home, is usually a semicircular excavation with one to three sleeping chambers, completely unfurnished. "Mixed" living is never indulged in. Male and female never inhabit the same burrow, which is, however, sometimes shared by two males.

The more complicated nesting burrow, built by the female during the mating season, is an architectural wonder. The loosened soil is not ejected, but when the animal has burrowed a few inches it contorts its body and manages to compress the soil to a mere fraction of its former bulk. It also spreads it quite evenly along the whole burrow, which is always astonishingly regular—flat on the bottom and carefully domed on top. The burrow is usually about twenty-five feet long and ends in a circular nesting chamber about a foot in diameter. Here the platypus very painstakingly builds the nest of grass and leaves in which she lays two eggs about as large as those of a pigeon, but characteristically reptilian in the parchment-like texture of their shells. The period of incubation is twenty-one days, and during this time the female does not leave her burrow, but seals herself in by a truly amazing series of "pugs," like those used for sealing mines.

A short distance from the entrance the female excavates a small chamber and compacts the excavated soil into a pug, which she uses to seal the burrow between the pugpit and the entrance. Working towards the nest she repeats this work at several points, usually where the burrow changes direction. She makes as many as ten of these pugs, and should feel secure in her retirement. Later, when her young have developed their prodigious appetites, she has to make journeys to the outer world—yet each time she goes out she laboriously digs through and replaces the pugs. Not until they are over a foot in length are the young led to the water by their mother, who releases crunched food for them to pick up—usually worms and small aquatic animals.

A delicate constitution, the need of a very carefully chosen diet and a ludicrously large appetite make the platypus difficult to keep in captivity. Europe has not seen a live specimen, but America has been more fortunate. In 1922 a male survived the journey to New York Zoo and lived there for forty-nine days before it was killed by the artificial conditions. In Australia two captives have become quite famous—"Bingie," whom Mr. David Fleay kept at the Melbourne Zoo for more than two years, and "Splash," who was kept by Mr. Robert Eadie at his home at Healesville, Victoria.

Splash is the real hero of the platypus world. He was caught when he was five months old wandering in a field of maize, and handed over to Mr. Eadie, who built a special platypusary with water-tank, sleeping-box, passage-ways and exercise-yard, and obtained a permit to make his experiment.

For eleven days Splash hid in a recess and refused to eat. Mr. Eadie thought he was bound to die, and was about to release him, when Splash suddenly emerged from his seclusion and tackled his worms with gusto. After that he developed an appetite which proved as worrying as his previous hunger-strike. Only the discovery, after much fruitless research, of an egg diet made it possible to keep him. Every day he had sixteen ounces of worms, custard made from two large eggs, and all the tadpoles available. During his captivity he disposed of more than half a ton of worms, thousands of tadpoles, and more than two hundred dozen eggs.

Splash soon came to recognise Mr. Eadie as a friend. When he heard his soft whistle, he would amble through the tunnel which served as his burrow and dive excitedly into the water in expectation of a game with his favourite toy, an old kitchen mop.

Splash had visitors from all parts of the world. I first met him on the fourth anniversary of his capture. He had many admirers that day and was fully alive to the importance of the occasion. I particularly remember the revels he made when his birthday-cake appeared—decorated with four fat worms, alive and wriggling. He careered round the pool, turning somersaults in sheer excitement, and then, like any child, selected the titbits—the four fat worms.

That was Splash's last birthday party. About a month later I was much distressed to find, as one of the chief items of news in my morning paper, that Splash had, after entertaining more than twelve hundred admirers, died full of years, worms and much honour. He had not succumbed, like many of his fellows, to troubles of diet and digestion, but to sheer old age, and had passed peacefully away after receiving, on the very day of his death, one hundred and thirty-two visitors. Obituary notices of a length, lyricism and verbosity usually reserved for politicians told of his passing.

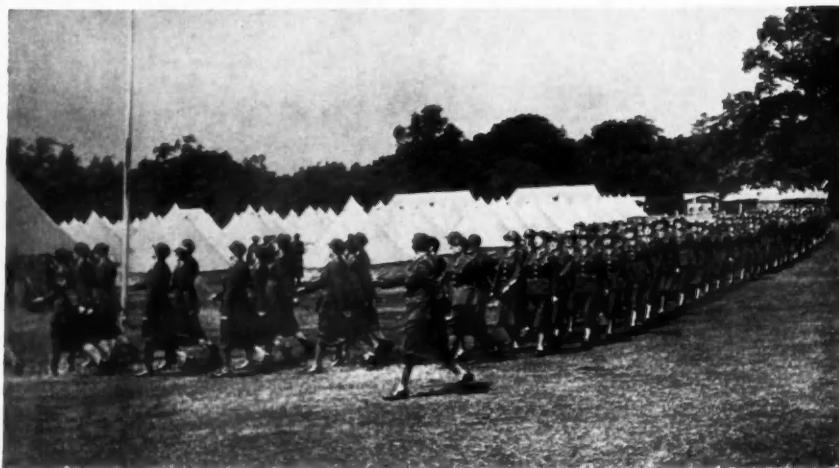
Since then, so far as I know, there has not been a platypus in captivity. But the animal survives wild, and is in no greater danger of extinction than the koala and some of the other Australian fauna. The greatest incentive to its destruction, the beauty and commercial value of its fur, has been countered by very rigid measures for its protection. Australians are now keeping an eagle eye on their quaint and charming little paradox.

DONALD HENDERSON.



"SPLASH," THE TAME PLATYPUS, IN HIS POOL AT THE HOME OF MR. ROBERT EADIE IN HEALESVILLE, AUSTRALIA

THE BIRTHDAY OF THE A.T.S.



A.T.S. MARCHING ON TO PARADE



PHYSICAL JERKS



Peggy Delius

NIGHT DUTY: SUPPLIES FOR TRANSPORT

Photographs exhibited by the Institute of British Photographers, Princes Galleries.

ONE cannot but wonder, now that the Territorial Army itself has, with scarcely a moment's notice, been completely absorbed in the British Army, how all the old differences of names, denoting equal differences of use and intention, are going to be "liquidated," as the modern word is; and this applies equally to the auxiliary forces which have been established from time to time and which have done such valiant, important and useful service in assisting and supporting the armed forces of the Crown. We all remember the "Waacs" and the "Wrens" of earlier days and the amazing work they did in the last war. Since then the Navy, Army and Air Force Institute has come into existence and looks after the comfort and recreation of the men of all three Regular Services. So far as auxiliary services were concerned, the Territorial Army had rather special problems to solve, and for their solution Mr. Hore-Belisha announced in September last year the formation of an Auxiliary Territorial Service which is just celebrating its first birthday, in some mystification, no doubt, as to what the position will finally be, when the Territorial Army has ceased to exist as a single organisation. However, the first year has been one of great success. The corps was created to release men in the T.A. from performing certain military duties. The strength of the Service, according to the latest returns, is now 912 officers and 16,547 members, and there is a waiting list for every company. The experience of this year's camps has shown of what stuff the new corps is made. More than half of their total are soldiers' daughters. The officers have all attended a School for Officers in Chelsea, and many of them come from districts very far away from that school of instruction. There they have learned how to give lessons in P.T., in hygiene, in catering, in Army organisation, drill and discipline. Half the total numbers went to camp this year, and the rest were employed on equally important work at home. Many of them have been working as clerks and orderlies in the T.A. drill halls and Regular Army depots.

As for their work in the field and its future they have certainly been very successful, and it is maintained in some quarters that the standard of living has gone up since they took over some of the camp catering for the Territorial Army. They are, however, not anxious to be over-ambitious, and in such matters describe themselves as a "temporary convenience." It is obvious that they will not be called upon to accompany a field force on active service, and to give them too much responsibility for organisation and catering at home could only lead to disorganisation when they came to be replaced by men for service overseas. It seems possible, however, that so far as the anti-aircraft units are concerned it might be possible to displace the men cooks completely by members of the A.T.S., and the same will no doubt apply to some extent to clerks, orderlies and telephonists.

The F.A.N.Y.s were the true forerunners of the A.T.S., in which corps they are now merged. They were incorporated as the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry in 1909, the year that the Territorial Force itself came into being. In 1933 the corps changed its name to the Women's Transport Service (F.A.N.Y.); and this year, thirty years after its foundation, it was absorbed into the Auxiliary Territorial Service. In July, Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, inspected this historic unit in their training camp at Mytchett, and



1909 : Original Uniform and Mess Uniform of the F.A.N.Y.

a dramatic presentation of their history was given in the form of a pageant. Its eight episodes told the story of thirty years of national usefulness, and the F.A.N.Y.s were able to make full capital out of the picturesqueness of the Yeomanry uniforms of their earlier periods. The first episode showed a ride of the F.A.N.Y. in the 1909 uniform they wore at their first camp. It may be said that their Brodrick Service caps, their frogged Yeomanry tunics, and their blue serge, white-piped riding habits look strangely out of period in these days ; but they certainly made a really imposing spectacle. By the time the Great War broke out the uniforms had been much modernised. Other episodes showed the corps in their period of service abroad, in the period 1919-25 when they were without transport, during the General Strike of 1926 when they took over the convoy of food from the London Docks and in the Crisis of last September. And the uniforms of to-day show the fitness and adaptability for service of every kind which particularly characterises this, the most famous unit of the modern Auxiliary Territorial Service.



The Hon. Jacqueline Vereker with Dame Helen Vaughan, Commandant A.T.S.

GOLF BY BERNARD DARWIN

THE GAME IN WAR-TIME

IT is not, I hope, wrong to write about golf in war time, and this article will assuredly not be written in any too frivolous or light-hearted spirit. Golf is one of the games that will go on during the war *as a game*. That there should be any form of serious or public competition would be unbecoming and is, moreover, out of the question because of the attracting of crowds. As an occasional recreation, on the other hand, golf can do nothing but good to those who are hard at work whether in the country's service or in carrying on at their own useful occupations. When first the long suspense was ended there was a natural and proper impulse to put all thoughts of games aside, but when people have settled down to war, however grimly, and the workaday world has, so to speak, got its second wind, there will be scope for a friendly game or two and gratitude for something that can for a short while occupy and refresh the mind.

In a good many cases, no doubt, the club-houses of golf clubs can be converted to national uses, and if so there will be no question of commandeering, for they will be gladly handed over. In any case there will be a natural reduction of staffs, and it is likely that clubs will shut up at any rate parts of their houses. It will be perfectly proper for people to want an occasional game for air and exercise, relief and fellowship ; but nobody ought to want that degree of comfort which he enjoys in normal times. Golf as it will be played from now on will be the simpler and more primitive game of older times and will not be found much the worse for that. As with club-houses, so with courses. Some may be taken over by the authorities, and on those that are not green-keeping must be on a modest scale. Greens will no doubt grow smaller and tees fewer ; the rough may encroach and become more tangled ; grass may grow in the bunkers which will become perhaps no longer mild and raked purgatories but the genuine hell's which older golfers sometimes allege that they ought to be : places, in the words of a famous old champion, where you had to scratch your head and think if you could get out. Yet the courses, if necessarily in undress order, may, we hope, survive. It sticks in my head that early in the last War there was an agitation, with perhaps no great amount of thought behind it, for the instant ploughing-up of golf courses. Such violent reactions are perhaps natural, but they are not on that account always sensible. If ever it were decreed that the country had got to become a ploughed field on account of dire need, there would be an end of the matter ; but there is no such need at present, and it did not arise during all the long years of the last War. I speak only from memory, possibly imperfect, but I can only recall one course of my fairly large acquaintance which in effect disappeared. That was a very famous one, no less than storied Blackheath, which became a place of "allotments." It was sad, but it was little more than the hastening of the inevitable, because the heath with its metalled and intersecting roads and its crowds of football players was rapidly becoming unsuited to golf. It was a course of great traditions and fine, stern qualities, but its time had in any case almost come.

Fortunately, green-keeping in war time does not entirely depend on professional green-keepers, whose ranks must be depleted. There are always willing amateurs. I was out of the country, playing on my own Macedonian course, for the final two and a half years of the last War, and so did not see the courses at home when they were hardest put to it for existence ; but I know that really heroic work was done, in many cases by ladies, to keep the home fires of golf burning. Was it joy in getting home again that made the courses seem so good, or were they really in perfectly respectable order when I saw them again ? How well, incidentally, do I remember gloating over Bramshot and West Hill and Woking as they flitted past the window of my train from Southampton ! At any rate, they seemed passionately well worth playing on again, and in fact I have no doubt that they would have been thought very good indeed in earlier and less particular days.

To write about golf when there is for the moment no golf is inevitably to become reminiscent, and I have been trying to remember my own golf in war time and the courses to which it belonged. Two courses hold for me military rather than golfing memories. One was at Wembley and the other was near Harrow. In the early months of the War I was a volunteer with a red brassard on my arm, and we performed our week-end evolutions and, if very energetic, camped also at Wembley. Over, I think, two courses there we fought our sham fights, and I was, on one occasion, one of a party who were surrounded and destroyed owing to an enemy spy attaching himself to a foursome in the treacherous guise of a caddie, and so reconnoitring our position. The Harrow course brings back an exhausting advance at the double and the helping of a large, eminent and prostrate Civil Servant through hedges and ditches. There are no memories of playing golf in those first months, and indeed we volunteers sometimes so far forgot ourselves as to shout in loud and underbred chorus at the shots of the elderly (we are elderly now) who played. Afterwards, with official soldiering, come memories of a very occasional Saturday afternoon's round at Bramshot, whither we escaped from Aldershot. Thence I went to Lancashire and am eternally grateful to the course at Ormskirk where I used sometimes to play evening rounds. I have never seen it since, though I have more than once promised myself to revisit, but it was an unspeakable solace and a wonderfully pleasant course into the bargain. It was a romantic one, too, because one's ball might lie, not very badly, in the trenches made by Cromwell when he besieged Lathom House. I am told it has been "reconstructed" since, and I dare say it is better than it used to be, but I am quite happy to think of it as it was. After that, Macdon and the course on the Vardar marshes, of which perhaps I may some day write again. I have still got the driver with which I used to play there, and perhaps if I could disinter it from the back of a certain dusty cupboard it might modestly inspire me. It helped to keep me going, and that is a service that golf may perform again.

CORRESPONDENCE

EEL-SPEARING WITH A HARPOON FORK

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE." Sir,—Mr. Beddington's article in your issue of July 22nd, on the subject of the Swedish Harpoon Fork and Canal Fishing, interests me very much. I should like to give the following information, which will no doubt be useful to the Nordiska Museum of Stockholm. When I was stationed at Rye, Sussex, during the Great War, our camp was pitched on the hills outside the town, and one fine evening, being off duty, I thought I would explore the town. I found myself, after a time, at a bridge across the River Rother, where I remained watching the coming and going of the people. After a while I noticed a man carrying a sack over his left shoulder, and in his right hand a harpoon three-pronged fork fixed to a pole about 12ft. to 14ft. long and perhaps 1½in. to 2in. diameter.

Not having seen anything of this kind before, I plucked up courage and asked him if he would kindly tell me for what purpose he used this deadly-looking instrument. His reply was: "I am going fishing," whereupon I asked him what sort of fish he would catch with this three-pronged fork. His answer was "Eels." Being a very keen fisherman myself, I said I was very much interested in this; whereupon he said he would be pleased if I would come with him and he would show me how to catch eels.

We left the town and went up the River Rother. It was then low tide (the river being tidal); the banks of the river were very steep and about 8ft. above water level at low tide. From the top of the bank he pushed the fork into the muddy bed of the river, and after a time he suddenly said, "I have caught an eel." He could tell by the struggling of the eel in the mud that the eel had been caught in the teeth of the prongs. He brought the fish carefully to the top of the water; then, by moving the fork backwards and forwards in the water, cleaned the mud from the fork and the fish, and produced a nice wriggling eel. The mud in the river was at least 2ft. deep and the eels seemed to abound there, for by the end of the evening the sack was well filled. I myself tried and was successful. The fisherman told me that the biggest eel he had caught there (he was a local man) was about 3ft. to 4ft. long. I have not come across this harpoon fork being used anywhere else in this country, so that it may be only a local method of catching eels.

In conclusion it may interest the Nordiska Museum of Stockholm to know that my family originate in Sweden, having fought for Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden.—E. E. REICHWALD.

[This means of catching eels is certainly used in many British rivers, especially chalk streams. And "eel spears" of this type can be obtained quite easily from tackle dealers. Usually the eel is seen before it is speared.—Ed.]

RABBITS
TOP
NESTING "

TO THE EDITOR. Sir,—A very curious instance of "top-nesting" by rabbits has caused considerable wonder among the railwaymen and dockers on Immingham Docks, near Grimsby. There are always a number of rabbits on the Immingham Dock estate, which comprises upwards of one thousand acres of land, much of which is unused; there is, therefore, no lack of admirable sites for "top-



JUMPING FOR A LIVING

gully bare-footed in the Brue flats after bathing a few hundred yards from the church, I almost trod on an adder. In 1869, two miles off on Turfmoor, where they were common, my elder brother and I killed one of fully 35ins. It was carefully measured. A native youth came up and asked to cut out its liver and the fat near, as a sure cure for bites.—J. EDMUND CLARK.

[According to E. J. Boulenger's "Reptiles and Batrachians," the largest recorded viper measured 28in. About 20in. is the average length.—ED.]

A NUBIAN'S LEAP

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE." Sir,—I thought your readers might be interested in this photograph of a Nubian boy who during the tourist season makes a good living by carrying out this daring leap. He told me that he made as much as ten shillings in a day, and on one occasion last year he made the leap fifty times during the day. His home is just above the Asswan Dam, and his earnings during the season keep a large family of brothers and sisters throughout the summer.—P. C. JAMES, *The Citadel, Cairo*.

MORE GOOD DEEDS

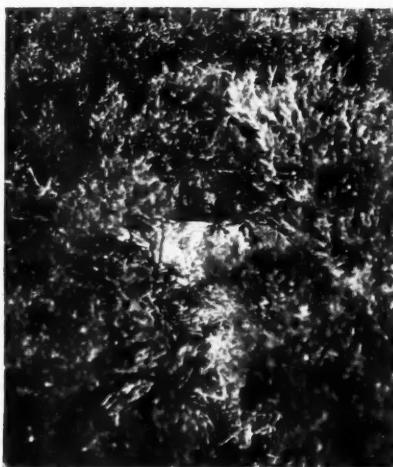
TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE." Sir,—In a recent issue of COUNTRY LIFE you published details of a lark's nest which, in barring progress to a road-making scheme, was carefully removed by the workmen to a safe place, the lives of the young birds being saved thereby.

I have recently returned from a visit to my old Thames-side cement works, where I witnessed further evidence of kindness shown to birds by workmen and which I consider worthy of record. In passing one of the massive concrete piers which carry the huge rotary kiln, I looked up and saw a workman's tea-can suspended by its handle immediately underneath the overhanging concrete walkway round the top of the pier. And as I watched, a sparrow appeared with food and went right into the can, where it had a brood of youngsters. Naturally, curiosity impelled me to make enquiries as to the reason of the tea-can hanging in such a strange position, and I was informed that last year a pair of house-martins had built their mud nest under the walkway and that, owing to the heat from the kiln and possible vibration, the nest with its four baby occupants crashed to the ground. A workman picked up the young birds and, with a handful of fine grass, placed them in the only available receptacle at his command, *viz.*, his own tea-can, which he tied by string to a nail at the spot from which the nest had just fallen. The young birds subsequently flew, but a later examination of the tin revealed that an amazing piece of work had been performed. *The parent martins had actually built up the cavity between the top of the can and the underside of the walkway with mud!*

At another part of the works I watched a pair of swallows with a nest in a ravine some three feet wide which had been cut in the solid chalk as a watercourse. A block of chalk had become dislodged, and the cavity had proved a suitable nesting place for swallows regularly since 1925. The top of the ravine was originally covered with flat corrugated sheets to prevent loose chalk from falling into the watercourse. Since the nest had been occupied in the early spring of this year it had become necessary to remove the sheets for other purposes. But one solitary sheet remained—left as a shelter for the birds. GEO. J. SCHOLEY.



THE NEST UNDER THE RAIL



PHOTOGRAPHED WITH A KODAK
AT SIX FEET

PHOTOGRAPHING A MERLIN

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."
SIR,—During the last twenty-five years merlins have from time to time nested on my rough fell shoot in Westmorland. As these little hawks are practically harmless to grouse, I have never molested them in any way. Until this season they have always reared their young successfully. Recently, however, a nest which I had my eye on—it was an old disused magpie's nest in a low thorn tree—came to a bad end. The hen bird had begun to sit on her four eggs when I first located her, and from then on I kept as good a watch as I had time for, as I knew that egg-collectors are always on the prowl. All went well until about the time the eggs were due to hatch, but next time I visited the tree I found that some vandal had knocked out most of the nest with stones, two of which were stuck in the branches. Two eggs, one of which was cracked, were hanging in the tree, but of the other two I could find no trace. Nobody had climbed into the tree, for there were no marks or abrasions on the lower branches, and the stones were plain evidence of what had happened. Whoever was responsible for the damage I do not know, but I should much like to have caught them in the act. It was a case of sheer wanton destruction.

In most instances the merlins have nested on the ground, but this time the hen chose a site in quite a small thorn tree. When sitting, a merlin is very tame. I enclose a photograph of a merlin taken at a distance of six feet, with a Kodak camera held in the hand.

The merlins chiefly feed their young on small birds, such as larks and meadow pipits. Once I watched a merlin in full pursuit of a greyhen, but how the chase ended I do not know,

as both birds disappeared round a shoulder of the hill. The late J. G. Millais saw a merlin knock a full-grown blackcock sprawling into the heather. Merlins are beautiful flyers, reminding one of a peregrine in miniature.—RICHARD CLAPHAM.

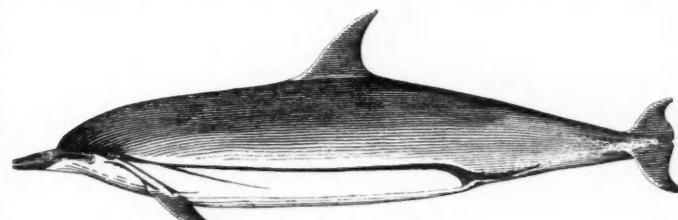
[This snapshot of a merlin on her nest, taken with the camera in the hand at six feet distance, is not only a remarkable record of tameness in the bird, but shows what can be done as regards bird photography with an ordinary snapshot camera and a short-focus lens.—ED.]

A RARE DOLPHIN

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—Readers of COUNTRY LIFE may be interested in this note about a comparatively rare dolphin which turned up on the English coast in August, 1937. It was the first well authenticated record of the *Euphrosyne* dolphin (*Prodelphinus euphrosyne*) stranding on the British Isles, and certainly it was the first since the British Museum (Natural History) undertook the systematic recording of stranded cetaceans in 1913. The range of the species extends from South Greenland to South Africa, and it was expected that sooner or later it would be found on our shores.

The specimen, a young female 6 ft. 5½ ins. long, stranded on Putsborough Sands, Morte Bay, North Devon, and the entire carcass was sent to the Museum. The figure reproduced here gives a good impression of the external appearance of the animal. In general form this species is like the common dolphin, with well defined, attenuated beak, recurved dorsal fin, and small tapering flippers, but the pigmentation at once distinguishes the *Euphrosyne* dolphin from the commoner species. A long narrow line of pigment extends from the eye on each side along the flank to the vent, where it widens out as it curves downwards. Two



PRODELPHINUS EUPHROSyne

parallel lines extend obliquely downwards from the eye to the flipper insertion, and a subsidiary branch comes off the eye to vent streak. For the rest, the back is darkly coloured and the belly white; flippers and tail flukes are dark on upper and under surfaces. The teeth, the largest one-eighth of an inch in diameter, numbered fifty on each side of the upper jaw and forty-three on each side of the lower.

A feature which at once differentiates the two very closely allied genera *Delphinus* and *Prodelphinus* is found in the skull. In the former the palate is scored on each side of the middle line by a deep and wide groove, whereas in the latter the palate is evenly arched.—FRANCIS C. FRASER.

A WINDMILL IN MASSACHUSETTS

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

SIR,—As a constant reader of COUNTRY LIFE I was very much interested in an article of November 6th, 1937, called "Hands of Competence," in which there was a review of a book called "The Village Carpenter" by Walter Rose.

This contained a picture of the horizontal axle of a windmill to which the sails are fixed. Even so long after that date as this, I wonder if you will be interested in the enclosed photograph of a similar detail of a windmill at South Yarmouth on Bass River, Cape Cod, Massachusetts. The chain shown here is put there to keep the wheel from turning under present conditions. This windmill was still a going concern until after 1890, and a two-masted packet used to bring corn to grind until the old miller died. The date of the mill itself is 1797—not very old for England or even for Massachusetts, but a respectable age. The cogs shown are different from those in your illustration. They are all of wood, and when my friends bought the mill there was a large chest of extra "teeth." These have gradually disappeared, probably taken by pilferers and souvenir hunters.—LOIS LILLEY HOWE.



WINDMILL AT SOUTH YARMOUTH,
MASS.



TEA-POT HALL TO-DAY

TEA-POT HALL IN DANGER

TO THE EDITOR OF "COUNTRY LIFE."

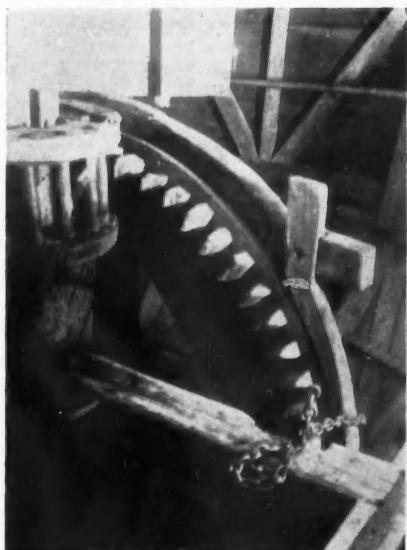
SIR,—Tea-Pot Hall, a mile south of Hornbeam, in Lincolnshire, is perhaps the best-known of all examples of "cruck" building, the primitive form of construction that was commonly used in the Middle Ages in the erection of smaller houses. Pairs of timbers, known as "crucks," were erected in such a way that they met at the roof ridge forming triangular ends to the house. There were thus no walls, or, rather, the walls were also roof. Such houses were easily transportable, as the crucks could be taken down and re-assembled on a different site.

Unfortunately, Tea-Pot Hall, as will be seen from the photograph, is now in a sadly derelict condition, and unless steps are taken to preserve it, may disintegrate altogether. Though not a mediaeval example, it is a very interesting survival of a mediaeval type of construction. It is said to have been built by a retired sea captain.—F. R. W.

A GOLDFISH FROM THE BLUE

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—A resident of Hythe was walking along, leisurely reading, in one of the by-roads of the town, when a goldfish fell on his newspaper. He looked up, but could see nothing to account for it, his view being partially obstructed by the surrounding houses. He took the fish home and put it into a glass bowl of water, and it seemed none the worse for its fall. What probably happened was this. A heron feeding in one of the private goldfish ponds in the neighbourhood was disturbed when it had insecurely picked up the fish, and dropped it while flying over the town. The goldfish was fortunate in falling upon such a soft surface as an open paper.—P. VERNON DODD.



THE AXLE WHEEL CHAINED

THE ESTATE MARKET

SOME WAR-TIME PROBLEMS



BUCKFIELD, NEAR BASINGSTOKE

THE war has confronted both vendors and purchasers, as well as lessors and lessees and ordinary owners and tenants of small property with a number of new problems. It may be said at the outset that, in the drafting of the emergency legislation, every care seems to have been taken to arrive at an equitable distribution of rights and duties, and that if the question of insurance against war risks remains unsolved at the moment, enough has been said in various authoritative quarters to justify the expectation that this matter will in due course receive sympathetic consideration, and that those who are unlucky enough to sustain damage to their property will be dealt with as liberally as the resources available allow.

The question of rents, in the sense expressed in the Restriction Acts, is both interesting and important to owners or would-be buyers of property, and it was to some extent dealt with many months ago, inasmuch as a report by high legal and other experts indicated the course to be taken, as regards the rights of lessors and the liabilities of lessees, in the event of temporary or permanent loss of the use and enjoyment of the whole or part of demised premises. In the case of rents, no increase under any pretext will be possible, in the case of all but the largest type of property, and that, for obvious reasons, naturally stands outside enactments, the primary purpose of which is to protect the man of limited means who must have accommodation, and who has been paying what was presumably a reasonable rent for it. No profiteering in rents of any type of property will, in short, be allowed. At any time such a practice is detestable, but it would be iniquitous if applied to tenants who have perhaps not merely to cope with the increased expenses and decreased incomes due to war-time dislocation, but have to be on active service in the defence of the realm. Buyers of houses should therefore proceed on the assumption that the existing rents are the appropriate basis of computation of value.

It is not surprising that some war-time legislation bears the marks of hurry, notably the Civil Defence Act, which in one of its sections presents a very serious problem for the owner of a block of flats. If not less than half the occupiers call on the landlord to provide an air-raid shelter in or near the block he must provide it, and, though he may make a small increase in the rents to reimburse himself, the Act confers on him no powers to recover possession of, say, a basement wherein to make the shelter, and he lacks also any power to secure information from the tenants as to how many persons may need to be sheltered. This illustrates one of the difficulties of urban ownership, and it is unlikely to make flats more attractive as investments. For some time they have been not at all easy to deal with, and the migration from urban centres to country retreats has helped to diminish the demand for the cheaper type of flat.

Perhaps the Emergency Powers (Defence) Act is the measure of most immediate importance to owners or intending buyers of country property. It confers powers for taking possession of land, and using it in any way, at the discretion of any authorised member of the Army or Navy, and in so far as that possession and use are essential to national defence none would object to it—indeed, it may be hoped all would uphold it. But the provisions as to land are not quite so simple. Tenants may

be turned out unless they comply with instructions from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as to the cultivation, management and use of any land that may be defined as farmland. Owners may conceivably dissent from official views on the subject. Wide powers of entry and interference with property of a rural type are vested in the Ministry, and sporting rights may in certain circumstances suffer loss or even extinction. It is pleasing to note that those who have taken the time-honoured advice "Ay be sticking in a tree, it will be growing while ye are sleeping" seem to have nothing to fear from the new measures, the Board of Trade Order providing only for "regulating and restricting the felling of trees, the sale of growing trees for felling, and the control of the prices at which growing trees may be sold."

TODDINGTON MANOR SOLD

IN common with scores of professional bodies, the National Union of Teachers has sought country offices, and it has been fortunate enough to buy Toddington Manor at a very moderate price. This palatial Gothic mansion cost Lord Sudeley over £150,000, when, with the help of his friend, Sir Charles Barry, architect of the Houses of Parliament, he built it in 1830. The Teachers have taken 146 acres with the mansion. It is near Cheltenham and Evesham. The Jacobean gateway of the former seat of the Tracys is a beautiful relic of former days, and close at hand are the ruins of Hailes Abbey. Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. Bernard Thorpe and Partners were the joint agents in the sale.

A fine eighteenth century Hertfordshire house at Hunsdon, near Ware, has been sold with 370 acres, of which 70 acres are woodland and 7 acres are lake. The associated agents in the sale were Messrs. Hampton and Sons and Messrs. John D. Wood and Co.

Another sale just announced is that of Glenlyn, a modern house in 2 acres, close to Hampton Court, and here the joint agents were Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. Nightingale, Page and Bennett, acting on behalf of the late Mrs. M. Pumfrett's trustees.

TROUT FISHING IN THE LODDON THE EARL OF WINCHILSEA AND

NOTTINGHAM is about to dispose of Buckfield, his finely fitted mansion and 800 acres four miles from Basingstoke. There is a swimming-pool in the grounds, and the chain of lakes adds to their beauty. The farms are all equipped with substantial buildings. Buckfield affords plenty of good shooting, and there is three miles of trout fishing in the Loddon. Messrs. Curtis and Henson are the agents.

Beechgrove Farm, a modernised house and good buildings in 70 acres, at Bledlow Ridge, Chinnor, Oxfordshire, has been sold by Messrs. George Trollope and Sons. They name an "upset" price of only £500 for the Westminster lease, for forty-one years at a ground rent of £116 a year, of No. 49, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square.

A long list of recent sales by Messrs. F. L. Mercer and Co. includes Common House, Dunsfold, with Messrs. Alfred Savill and Sons' Guildford office; Foresters Court, Churt, to a client of Messrs. George Trollope and Sons; The Lodge, Tilford, with Messrs. Cubitt and West; and other Surrey freeholds; as well as The Manor Farm, Shillingstone, a Dorset

holding, with Messrs. Johnstone and Son; The Hall, Wickham Skeith, Suffolk, with Messrs. Annesley and Graham; various houses on and near the Chiltern Hills; and the purchase, for a client, of 450 acres, near Basingstoke, Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock acting for the vendor.

A HOSTEL FOR CLIMBERS

THE late Brigadier-General E. W. Spedding's Derwentwater property has been acquired by the Workers' Travel Association, the executor's agents being Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and the Penrith Farmers' and Kidd's Auction Company, Limited. The house is mainly modelled externally on the Swiss style, and it blends most harmoniously with the rugged contours of Skiddaw. The 40 acres have a mountain stream winding through them. Underscar, as the house is called, is close to Greta Hall, where Robert Southey died.

A Cumberland sale for £11,100 is notified by Messrs. Dixon and Mitchell and the Penrith Farmers' and Kidd's Auction Company, namely, of Inglewood, near Penrith. It was offered for sale by order of the trustees of the late Sir Emmanuel Hoyle, Bt. Inglewood is a stately stone house, the chief feature of the elevation of which is a round embattled tower. The 525 acres are on the Lazonby road, four miles from Penrith. The sport has been very well preserved, and there are fishing rights in the Eden. Inglewood Farm, of 381 acres, is let at £320 a year.

Friston Court, East Dean, on the Sussex Downs, is now offered either for sale or to be let on lease unfurnished, by Messrs. Hampton and Sons.

FORESTRY IN SCOTLAND

THE EARL OF GALLOWAY has let much of his extensive estate of Glentrool, in the Merrick region of the south-west of Scotland, to the Forestry Commission. The Lodge, leased to the Marquess of Tavistock, the shooting, and the fishing rights in the Cree and Minnoch and various lochs, are reserved from the lease. It is understood that the lease affects about sixty-two square miles, on which are excellent sheep farms. The Galloway estate agent, Mr. Campbell Laing, was the negotiator, acting in conjunction with the Earl of Galloway's legal advisers.

A well known Cotswold property, Hackers House, Churchill, for sale by Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock, has just been judiciously modernised. It is within four miles of the kennels of the Heythrop. Just before their recent auction, the firm sold The Temple, Longhope. For the second time in twelve months Messrs. James Styles and Whitlock have sold Orchard Cottage, East Hanney, and they have, with Messrs. Gribble, Booth and Shepherd, sold Belham Hayes, at Kencott, near Burford, and they have disposed of The Vicarage, Stanton Harcourt, near Oxford.

Two Dorset properties have been entrusted for sale to Messrs. H. Lidington and Co. One is Thorngrove, a small mansion in 40 acres, near Gillingham, for which a very reduced price can be quoted; and the other is Frith, a modern copy of the Queen Anne style with 260 acres, close to Stalbridge. This property is suitable for residential and agricultural occupation, being specially suitable for a pedigree dairy herd.

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THE WAY OF FOX CUBS

IT is in March that the vixen becomes a proud mother, and a very busy, anxious mother at that. The cubs are not unlike Irish setter puppies, when first born, and, like puppies, they do not open their eyes till eight or nine days after birth. When one considers that a fox is not fully matured till he is eighteen months or two years old, it is wonderful, to my mind, how very much grown up a fox cub, born in March, becomes by the end of August or early on in September, when he first hears the cry of hounds and the twang of the horn. Once their eyes are open, their education soon starts. If laid up underground, they will soon creep to the entrance of the earth. At first, no doubt, they are tempted by curiosity, and then by pangs of hunger or greed. A vixen will suckle her cubs till they are about a month old, and then their ration is increased to that resembling the usual diet of foxes.

So it is that they soon learn to pick a bone—a leg of a rabbit, the wing of a fowl—even beetles do not come amiss—or a mole.

While waiting round the earth they naturally begin to play—and here again, they play as puppies will. If one cub is bigger than his brothers and sisters, he is naturally the master, and when food arrives he will secure the best. In this way his weaker brothers learn strategy or cunning, as they will often, by making a diversion, secure the desired morsel. The dog fox will help with the feeding when the vixen is busy with her cubs, and this reminds me that I have never seen a fox carry away a fowl or a goose holding it by the neck and the body flung over his back. If you ask people, countrymen for instance, who spend their lives in the woods and fields, they will answer readily enough: "Oh, yes, him always carries un so"—but I fancy that in reality he is thinking of the picture above the hearth, of a fox taking away John's grey goose, and, having looked at it for so long, imagines he sees it in real life. I may be wrong, but I have never seen a fox carry a bird thus, and as a fox will at times take a "mixed grill" back with him—consisting perhaps of a mole, a young rabbit, and a hen, with the mole and rabbit packed neatly under the hen's wing—if he did not carry these in his mouth, the smaller items would fall out: but they do not.

It is but a step from waiting for mother at the entrance to the earth, when she returns with

food, to going to meet her, and from that, going out with her on her forays. So the cubs learn to scent and so they learn to find food, and to kill and eat it. A beetle first, it may be, and perhaps they wind a mole. The vixen will show them how it is done; she will stand stock still with a fore foot lifted, her head on one side, listening. The mole is near to the surface, and the earth moves. In a second the vixen has sprung, her jaws snap, and the cubs are snarling over the dead mole.

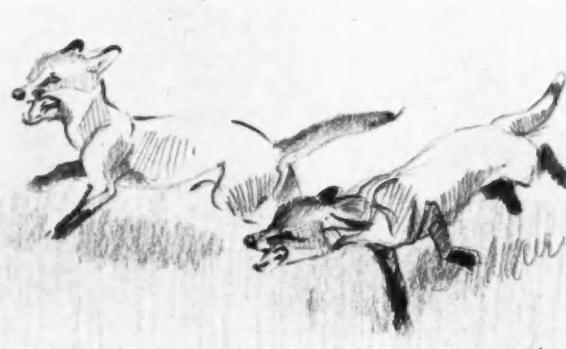
Or a cub may find a mole in long wet grass, that has come up to lick the dewdrops or the rain. And so they learn and prosper, and grow in body, sense and experience. As he grows more experienced and bigger and stronger, big brother kills a rabbit. He will not share this with anyone, but snarls and shows his teeth at his relations if they come near. Then they move on and leave him to it and he eats his fill, and perhaps he does not go home that night, but creeps into some adjacent hiding. Having once done this, he will do it again; he will find new lodgings and lie there snug and undisturbed. He will range farther afield still, and good luck to him, for a cub that learns his country and the earths in it is the fox of the future that will lead hounds a merry chase.

I have mentioned how a cub on following the vixen will begin to use his nose. He will scent his food. It is then that his education as to the importance of scent begins. The fellow who laid out after eating his rabbit, for instance, wakes up, finds himself alone, may miss the comfortable warmth of his brothers and want to go home. He does not know the way, but the scent of the others is there on the wet grass and he follows it.

Had the vixen and her cubs had a sudden fright as they paddled along on their homeward way, then the little brother would have been at a loss to follow them. For on a sudden

fright the scent of a fox at once fades away. As a fox becomes exhausted, scent also fails and will peter out altogether at any fresh alarm; this again we see in the field. Every true hunting man and woman realises that these peculiarities in the scent of a fox are of vital importance and ride absolutely mute, and if all who ride with hounds acted in a similar manner, the man who carries the horn would be spared much of the anguish he now experiences when his hounds are behind a sinking fox.

CHARLES UPTON.



"AND SO THEY LEARN AND PROSPER"

ELECTRICITY IN WAR-TIME

THIS is a time when a country house with its own private electricity plant has certain advantages, and in a few instances the larger estates have retained their private plants even when they have gone over to the public supply. At the same time readers need not fear that the public supply will be seriously affected except in the unlikely event of air raids becoming exceptionally successful. The Electricity Commissioners have made adequate plans for providing for emergencies and replacement plant is already in stock to replace damaged units. Interruption of supply for a few hours is, of course, probable after a serious raid, but complete cessation is not likely in any wide area.

Except from the point of view of lighting restrictions there is no need to cut off the electricity to a house during a raid, but it is advisable to disconnect high-consumption apparatus such as electric fires and cookers. Every effort will be made by the supply authority to keep the supply going, as it is required for A.R.P. purposes.

We have already been informed that domestic consumers will be rationed, the figures being about three-quarters of previous amounts consumed. This applies only to electricity for domestic purposes. On estates where electricity is used for agriculture no restriction is likely, and farmers should keep in touch with their local electricity office to see that they understand the position as regards possible requirements for food production. Estate owners should not hesitate to proceed with electrification in connection with agriculture, dairy work, poultry, etc.

The installation of a private plant will soon only be possible with second-hand plant, as the manufacturers of engines will be full up with war requirements. There will be a few new plants available for a time, but there are a fairly large number of second-hand plants to be had throughout the country. A private plant can be installed either as a stand-by or for continuous use. Diesel or crude oil engines are, of course, preferable, as petrol may not be obtainable for this purpose. No doubt, the present emergency will result in a few small water-power plants being installed, but there are not many places where a suitable water supply is

available for this purpose. Emergency plants should be of the same voltage as that of the public supply, so that existing lamps, etc., may be used.

Should the supply of electricity be cut off for any reason, it is not necessary to switch off all the apparatus which is in use. There is no danger in leaving the switches as they are. It is, however, a good plan to switch off where it is convenient, as it helps the process of reconnecting the supply.

Readers will already have taken the necessary steps to comply with the lighting restrictions, but it might be worth while at this stage to check up on the size or consumption of the lamps left in use. At first it is essential to shield many of the lights, using the lamps which are already in use. Afterwards a considerable saving in electricity may be effected by installing much smaller lamps.

Alternatively special A.R.P. lamps may be obtained. These vary somewhat, but in general they throw the light only in a downward direction and thus prevent any beam of light when a door is opened. Outside lighting is a difficult problem, and can only be used when adequate shading is provided. There are suitable fittings which may be used with lamps of reduced size, and even though the actual amount of lighting permitted is only a fraction of the normal, it is much preferable to no lighting at all.

In cases where a continuous supply is essential, stand-by battery plants may be installed, but if power is essential, it is important to see whether the motors will work on direct current (D.C.). An emergency battery will not give alternating current (A.C.) which is now universal. Lamps will operate on either provided that the voltage is correct.

It is worth while to remember that in the case of any interruption of supply ordinary electric clocks will stop and should be re-started as soon as the supply is re-connected. Self-starting clocks are of no advantage, as the time indicated would be incorrect. In the case of time switches, which may be used for automatic switching (as in poultry-houses), special reserve spring types can be obtained which will continue to function and keep correct time for some hours after the supply is cut off. Spring-driven time switches will not be affected. J. V. BRITTAINE.

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CAR-LIGHTING AND THE NEW HILLMANS

THE motorist has contributed generously, though perhaps a trifle unwillingly, during the piping times of peace to the expenses of national defence, and now that war is actually with us he has not been slow to do his bit.

In front of him lies an uncertain period of service, and the two things which weigh most heavily on him are the mileage he can get from the meagre gallon or two of petrol which is going to be allowed him and the facility with which he can crawl about the roads at night when he has to do so.

There is one consolation, however, to be got from this argument with the Third Reich in which we are engaged. When it is all over, we motorists will emerge, in addition to any other experience we may have gathered, with some totally new conceptions of the art of motoring.

In the first place, it is quite obvious that we have been driving about the roads with far more light than was really necessary in the past. When one has to see with a couple of side lamps obscured by several thicknesses of newspaper and with reflectors completely blacked out, it is amazing how well one can do it. Only a few weeks ago the mere idea of driving with the lights now allowed would have raised a storm of righteous indignation, but when we have to do it we manage somehow.

Another thing that emerges as a distinct move in the right direction is the necessity of whitening the bumper bars and running boards under the new regulations. On a great majority of the nights in this country I believe it would be possible to drive at a moderate speed without any identification lights at all with this system in operation, and so far as stationary cars are concerned it enormously improves the ease with which they can be picked out.

Living in the country not far from London and having to drive long distances

each day and sometimes in the night, I have noticed a curious phenomenon with regard to the flocks of refugee children who are housed in the district. Coming as they do from the dense traffic of London, one would think that they would be more alive to the dangers of the road than the ordinary country children. The reverse is actually the case, according to my observation. The imported children seem to assume that there is never any traffic on country roads, and walk anywhere both by night and day. They rush out of cottage doors straight on to main roads without looking where they are going. They dash out from behind stationary vehicles, and generally, so far as road sense is concerned, seem to be far behind their country cousins. This may, of course, be due to a natural reaction to the new condition of freedom which they now enjoy, but it is certainly the opposite to what one would naturally expect.

Another thing that has come to stay even after the war-time lighting conditions are done away with is the increased use of white lines on the roads. It can, of course, be argued that a plethora of white lines is only going to make them so familiar that their use in really dangerous places will be negated. This may be true to a certain extent, but the persistent white-line offender will ply his nefarious trade whether there are white lines there or not, and for the average driver their extended use is obviously of great value at least through six months of the year. Fog, which is one of the peace-time curses, can be almost rendered harmless by a proper use of white lines.

HILLMANS FOR THE COMING SEASON

It is unfortunate that the new Hillman Minx should have made its first bow to the public at this time, as it is undoubtedly

a vastly improved car and at any other time should have secured a ready market. For 1940 the Minx, which holds a unique place among small British cars, has been modified so as to introduce a completely new standard of strength and safety. In addition to enormous strength, another big merit accompanies the new design—namely, low weight: the 1940 Minx scales almost a hundredweight less than its predecessors. The new foundation frame of the Minx consists essentially of a stressed platform reinforced longitudinally by side members. Level with the scuttle, those side members increase to an exceptional depth, and are of box section tapering towards the front of the car. Throughout the remainder of their length the side members act as reinforcements to the main body flooring, and form, in conjunction with the main body sills, a welded box section of enormous strength. When the pressed steel saloon body is mounted on this chassis frame the entire unit is converted into one rigid whole.

A great increase in room and luggage accommodation has been made in the new Minx body, while a modification in front makes it possible to lift the bonnet and radiator grille as one piece, which system, while increasing the strength makes access to the engine extremely easy.

The driving seat on the *de luxe* model is adjustable both up and down as well as forwards and backwards, and no fewer than twenty different positions are available, while the rear passengers have an unusual amount of room for both legs and elbows.

So far as the engine is concerned, improvements have been made by stiffening the cylinder block, while the cylinder head has been re-designed to permit of the use of an increased compression ratio. On the new Minx the electrical system is of twelve volts. The touring saloon will be priced at £165 and the saloon *de luxe* at £175.



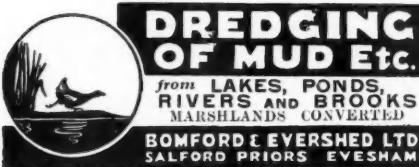
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FASHION FAIR

SERVICE

by

DORA SHACKELL

"**W**HAT can I do to help?" is woman's question of the moment.

The answers are legion.

For this is a war in which women will be actively engaged. True, there are many who frankly admit that their truest *métier* is for home-minding. And here there certainly is ample work to be done. Providing cheerful asylum for others, and especially for the children evacuated from towns, is not the least part of National Service.

Others, without facilities to help in this way, can assist by doing office work for their A.R.P. organisation, or by undertaking first-aid work. Nursing will surely commend itself to those who know themselves capable of this form of service.

But to many the urge to be up and doing can only be satisfied by enlistment in one of the uniformed services. The Women's Auxiliary Territorial Service, the Royal Naval Service, the Women's Auxiliary Air Force, exist for this. Each has its separate appeal, its percentage of special work and its quota of cooks, store-keepers and clerks. So may every woman do her bit, whatever her forte.

But not every woman makes the most of herself in uniform. Which is a pity, because these are uniforms to be proud of: uniforms in which to face the world bravely and confidently, not to say efficiently. And they certainly have all the fundamentals for making a good appearance. They are instinct with that tailor-made appearance which always becomes the English-woman: the functional simplicity of belt and pockets, the neat revers, collar and tie, and just that telling little bit of relief in buttons and badge.

It must be acknowledged that the cut is everything. It really pays to see that this is good. Or more particularly it is a crime to neglect it. For, as every officer knows, example is a fine thing; and if men have responded to the discipline of smartness, women members will certainly not be laggards in so doing.

Choosing a tailor for this job needs a little forethought. However satisfied you may have been with dressier things, bought ready-made perhaps, a uniform really needs the expert attention of a firm such as Burberrys or Kenneth



BURBERRYS tailored this A.T.S. uniform. They also supply ties, hats, stockings, gloves, weatherproofs and shoes to conform to service pattern.

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BURBERRYS LTD., **HAYMARKET,**
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THE British warm, service jacket and skirt shown here were all tailored by Kenneth Durward.

THE service mackintosh is from Burberry.

ELIZABETH ARDEN make this useful service vanity case in pigskin. It contains powder, lipstick, foundation and cleanser.



Durward, who have long experience of military and naval dress. Dege of Conduit Street are another house; Moss Brothers too.

For the A.T.S. it is possible to volunteer either for home service or for service abroad; and if you choose the latter the considerations of dress become even more important, in view of the fact that you may be cut off from supplies. Shoes, especially, should be chosen with care. Quite apart from seeing that they conform to service pattern and are comfortable, they should be waterproof too. Burberrys make them like this, and also with non-skid soles, which is a further asset.

A little point which may interest those who believe in keeping their powder dry is that Elizabeth Arden has just brought out a little vanity case for Service women. It is in pigskin, and should be invaluable. After all, there is no point in sacrificing your beauty for lack of the appropriate aids when you can carry them about as neatly as this.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR WILL
THE CRUSADE OF RESCUE HOMES**

2/6



2/6

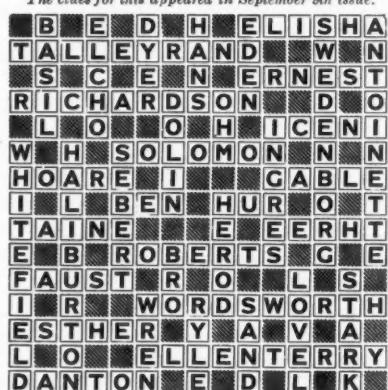
DEREK

THIS CHILD, AND 750 OTHERS, were homeless, suffering and deprived of the very necessities of life, until the Crusade of Rescue took them into its care. This charity is part of the big National Work of Child Rescue and depends for its existence and maintenance on voluntary contributions.

When you realise that half-a-crown will feed and clothe two such children for a whole day, will you not send a gift to the Very Revd. Canon George L. Craven Administrator, 48, Compton Street, W.C.I.

SOLUTION to No. 502

The clues for this appeared in September 9th issue.



ACROSS.

- An old racing story? (two words, 5, 8)
- Not the same as a topcoat (7)
- A wicker vessel (7)
- "O dark, dark, dark, amid the blaze of _____ Irrecoverably dark!" —Milton (4)
- Did castellans have to earn theirs? (5)
- The torch that Will carried (4)
- The girl swallowed something: hence the flushed appearance? (7)
- "Pens ran" (anagr.) (7)
- Boxes, but they are sometimes found up in the ceiling (7)
- A blood donor to her family (7)
- Receptacles for ashes (4)
- A game that turns on a violin (5)
- Hardy character (4)
- A way to put in some kinds of plant (7)
- The opposite of tropical (7)
- Birds that make a striking impression? (13)

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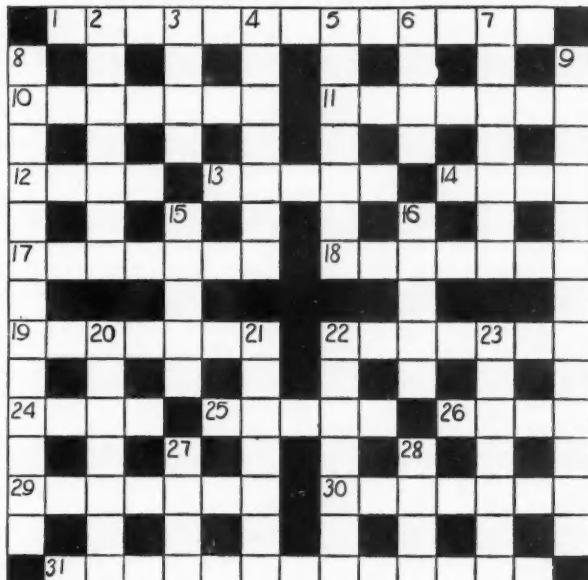
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"COUNTRY LIFE" CROSSWORD No. 503

A prize of books to the value of 3 guineas, drawn from those published by COUNTRY LIFE, will be awarded for the first correct solution to this puzzle opened in this office. Solutions should be addressed (in a closed envelope) "Crossword No. 503, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," and must reach this office not later than the *first post on the morning of Tuesday, Sept. 19th, 1939.*

The winner of Crossword No. 502 is
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PEN-Y-GWRYD HOTEL.	
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FOREIGN HOTELS	
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"DER KAISERHOF."	
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BELGIUM	
LE ZOUTE.	
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CEYLON	
COLOMBO.	

FOREIGN HOTELS

AUSTRIA
BADGASTEIN.
"DER KAISERHOF"

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